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ATTRIBUTION OF STREET NAMES, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

## **WANDERING THROUGH BUCHAREST**

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## WANDERING THROUGH BUCHAREST

## The City of symbolic geographies

Professor ADRIAN MAJURU, PH.D.

Cities are born and die many times in one life. They each century passed have a different life and what remains behind generically we call "heritage". Bucharest has many legends about its heritage foundation and a long-term historical reality that we can scarcely describe very briefly. Dâmbovița middle lane was for the Middle Ages one of the few places to passing through Transylvania, through the forests and floodplains crossing the Danube plains in those times.

Always at such crossings of trade routes rural settlements were formed, which provide security to those who transited goods, but also a market for their products. And as such crossings took place with the termination of rain, in the spring, and autumn, before the arrival of snow, the whole region economically adapted to the merchant traffic, accustoming it with regular fairs, for example the Spring Graybeard Fair and Autumn Graybeard Fair. Bucharest villages today have had such a fair, which it kept at its edges till in modernity as the "Graybeard Fair" with "Stockyard". And the road leading to the fair was called, as was natural, "the Graybeard Way" or " Out Fair Bridge". But also the old roads of trade and of regional and European merchant are kept today in the city street network: Victoria Avenue was before Brasov Bridge previous to be Mogosoia Bridge; Coltea Avenue was Ploesti Road, and from that point the road was going to Brasov; Grivița Avenue was the Clay Bridge or the Târgoviște Bridge which went to Sibiu; Rahova Avenue was Craiova Avenue that led to Drobeta and Belgrade; Călărașilor Avenue was leading to the Danube and Byzantium; nowadays Serban Voda Avenue was Beilicului Bridge, which continued towards the Danube with Giurgiului Highway and Olteniței Highway; Vergului Roadway was the Braila Road.

And all these roads met to pass Dâmbovița in the nowadays Union Square, where there was a river island and the river's flow-through was more tortuous offering opportunities for crossing, the other banks being generally steep.

This regional economic market came at a time to the attention of the ruler of the country. And since the time when the attention was given to this place by the reign, it began also the history of the Bucharest Fair. A story that takes place over 600 years.

Irina Airinei is mapping one of the most sensitive urban maps, that of the names apparently hidden or often changed with the passage of generations consuming symbols. Until this work, the names of places and streets were uncharted space left for Bucharest, very sporadically. Irina Airinei proved by her monograph multiculturalism force in shaping the symbolic maps of a large city, although very young age, as Bucharest. In this paper, TRAVELLING THROUGH BUCHAREST, the map of symbols starts to make the outlines offering some urban research directions. Irina Airinei opens another field of study, but a very large, namely multi-ethnic city, nourished for hundreds of years by a strong Balkan and Near Eastern emigration.

It is a very tempting idea of some ethnic Bucharests, each with its emotional, professional, religious, psycho-pathological structure. Of some certain ethnic Bucharests like concentric circles, culture systems, behaviors, customs, traditions, institutions, a mechanism polarizing a whole urban corpus.

These seemingly separate and isolated worlds by their inner diversity compared with the natives have become elements that have coalesced into local social scaffolding. They have added vitality boosting social segments seemingly peripheral, gradually pushing them towards social hierarchies, for example the stateless *bajenar*/wanderer having official or specific noble qualities: warrior, merchant, diplomat, etc.

The movement to the north of the Danube of the immediate interest of survive of the Balkan peoples turned Bucharest in a miniature universe, impossible to create in the south-Danubian Empire. Thus, on the background of the disappearance of free Balkan states during the XIII-XV centuries, the process "triggers waves of refugees in the area, hoping to keep their religious identity, the main form of collective identity in the Middle Ages, and sometimes even -to save their life. And they found their place on the estates, in fairs or in the capital, near the boyars or even in the prince's entourage – from the brave Baba Novac to the little orphan from Svishtov, Anton Pann. Thus, a large group of Albanians arrives in Wallachia, during Michael the Brave, in a moment of reawakening the hope for Balkan peoples."<sup>1</sup>

The flow of the Balkan population, with its contextual oscillations, was constant until the middle of the nineteenth century. Hundreds of years, mainly, "by their capitals were directed Bulgarian fugitives (they will be called most often Serbs or Schei and they are Orthodox or Catholic). (...) So, the Albanian soldiers arrive, courageous Albanian, guards and reliable porters. And the Bucharest people gladly receive them. (...) There were established here many Greek merchants and craftsmen, Armenian, Bulgarian, Hebrew, and Turkish, and a large number of peasants. (...) The princes, the nobles need any newcomer for labor, merchants, gardeners, artisans, the coachmen, innkeepers, apothecary, as in the nineteenth century it will require painters, photographers, musicians, printers, engineers, doctors. We can not imagine modernization, westernization of Romanian society without them."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ferenc Csorban, *Bucharest, multi-ethnic city*, Citadela, year IV, 1999 Cerașu-Prahova, p. 76  
The same author states: "The Ottoman state vicinity brought to the Danube and beyond the other elements of Ottoman society, plural by definition. As corporate the Roman and then Byzantine societies of supra-ethnic empires, spread across several continents, as well as the Ottoman was plural, in the cities coexisted in an intricate economic and relational system Muslims, Orthodox Christians (Greeks , Bulgarian, Serbian, Romanian, Caucasians) and Catholics (Dalmatian and Italian), Armenian and Hebrew."(*idem*).

<sup>2</sup> Ferenc Csorban, *ibidem*, pp 76-77

In premodern and modern Bucharest "existed - under different conditions, of decline or boom - communities of Greeks, Albanians, Ukrainians (especially arrived from Northern Bukovine), Russian (political immigrants from Bessarabia, but often from Lippovan Russians of Dobrogea and Northern Moldova communities), Bulgarians (from Dobrogea and southern Bessarabia), Turks and Tatars from

Located at the crossroads of major trade routes linking Southeast European part to the continent center, the approach to the Ottoman world - huge outlet followed by that represented by Russia, Bucharest absorbed civilization elements from all these areas of culture. Bucharest world was highly variegated between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This social and ethnic diversity was seen even in the slums. Raoul Perrin describes this human mosaic on the merchant streets as being "sometimes interesting, sometimes disgusting because of poverty and dirt. There are of all nations: Vlachs, Moldavians, Turks, Rumelians, Bulgarians, Serbs, Bosnians, Greeks, Armenians, Russians, people coming from Crimea, Bessarabia, Transylvania, Hungarians, Italians, Germans and especially Hebrew."<sup>3</sup> De Giers will meet in Bucharest "all nations of the West and the East, the most variegated garments", being astounded by "the variety of costumes."<sup>4</sup>

Balkan elements penetrate rapidly into the political, economic and cultural, Moldavian and Wallachian elite, being found in all social divisions of Bucharest until late in the nineteenth century. From among Balkan peoples it will be an unknown number of large and small senior officials, officers, traders and merchants. Then it came that royal families absorb the Balkan elements, because, at times, the latter becoming prevalent in secular and religious power structures.

City streets, their environment architecture and interior houses, the resorts of privacy, the clothing items and literary, musical and spiritual tastes are anchored in the complex civilization of Balkans. The city of the eighteenth century in many respects listed above resembled with Constantinople, whence came the latest news in fashion, cuisine, furniture, habits, etc. Manners, relations between spouses, neighbors, relatives and friends were taken from oriental-Balkan world, with the entire suite of mental traits. Not to mention the official relations between the authorities and inhabitants, of the prince and subjects. All these values summarized in Moldova and Wallachia social corpus will be called "tradition" and in its name will result in violent confrontation between form and substance, which tilted the modernization of the Romanian society. In fact, the success of this process was based on reducing the prevalence of Balkan and oriental elements in Romanian society, instead of being taken by ethnic and cultural elements coming from Central Europe and Western world. On this basis then leaned the new orientation of local elites, to modern Europe.

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Dobrogea. Some of these communities were able to have a proper place of worship, some forms of education, their newspapers."(*Ibid*, p. 79)

Cornelia Papacostea said about the Greeks immigrants in Wallachia, in the eighteenth and the beginning of nineteenth centuries, they were "trained people who were attracted by the Romanian Principalities especially for exercising their career, under greater freedom in ideological terms and conditions incomparably more favorable in that they could write and publish their works."(Cornelia Papacostea-Danielopolu, *op.cit.*, p. 77)

<sup>3</sup> Raoul Perrin apud Djuvara Neagu, *Between East and West, the Romanian Countries in the early modern era*, Humanitas, Bucharest, 1995, p. 168

<sup>4</sup> De Giers, apud, *ibid*, p. 174

# WANDERING THROUGH BUCHAREST

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## NATIONAL TOPONYMIC HERITAGE – THE SYNERGY OF ADMINISTRATION AND CULTURE

*Identifying and protecting national toponymic heritage, synchronically and diachronically, should be one of the definitory objectives of a functional, non-bureaucratic civil service, founded on accurate data regarding an area's real estate – buildings and land – as well as the population residing within. The common identifier when compiling a database of buildings and residents is the cadastral address, the address of a person's residence in the population register. The main element of an address is the street name attributed to it by the local public administration, taking into account the history of the settlement and figures who left a mark on public life in the respective community. A person designated to analyze and change street names must be a person of culture and good intentions: names of streets are part of daily life, a form of culturalization and collective imagination; a means of reorienting affection towards the destiny of a community. A street sign bearing the name of a person, place or historic event may contain only sparse data regarding the reason for its attribution, but it is an aspect of public culture, a bridge between an unitary judiciary framework and a pluralistic cultural identity, a connection between ethnic and civic components.*

*Keywords: toponymic heritage, civil service, judiciary framework, cultural identity, ethnic.*

Troughout the ages, mankind has felt the need to identify the places where it flourished and through which it wandered. In order to better distinguish them, people have given places various names which, with the passage of time, have entered history.

In archaic periods, the owner of a piece of land was well acquainted with his neighbors and defined the land's boundaries in agreement with them. However, as society evolved, man felt the need to officialize, in one form or another, the status of the owners of land and buildings, as well as keep an index of parcels of land and their characteristics.

As the number of owners grew, through the division of greater properties centered on the feudal residence or through the separation of lands belonging to a certain settlement (as well as the need to mark the boundaries of each property in order to establish the taxes which would be paid to local authorities), the need for more accurate records arose.

Such records began to appear between the 11th and 14th centuries in Western Europe and were related to loans and guarantees between landowners.

However, there are even older accounts of cadastral registers, given that the age-old connection between man and nature was founded on the land, a property offering resources which provided for man's daily needs, requiring man to know its location and boundaries.

As we study history, we discover great amounts of information pertaining to the management of land ownership, including the various placenames used to mark land boundaries, data regarding land surfaces and ownership titles as well as economical data regarding the benefits resulting from the exploitation of land: harvested resources and taxes offered to authorities for maintaining ownership and exploitation.

The first such information appears in ancient Mesopotamia, the land between the two great Middle Eastern rivers, where all land was owned by the state and free peasants were entitled to exploiting its resources. Payment of the royal tribute (ownership taxes and income taxes) required precise records. Both royal clerks and religious figures would keep a record of land surfaces, reflected in the monetary resources and labor involved. The development of society brought about the need to connect different locations, which in some societies led to a rapid development of paved roads, which were then identified under various names, as seen in ancient Persia.

On the Earth's other hemisphere, where Aztec civilization evolved, the land belonging to the community was divided by the clan leader, together with a council of elders. The distribution to each family of a surface of land meant that a clear record of the entire surface had to be kept, one similar to a cadastral record. This led to a better management of harvests and, implicitly, of taxes which were to be paid. Through its clerks, the state would handle all these bookkeeping tasks. Perhaps the most minutious records on this side of the globe were kept by the Mayans, who also constructed a vast road networks. Maps showing thousands of kilometers of Mayan roads, built using cobblestone and cement, were dotted with hieroglyphic signs marking supply stations which facilitated travel between settlements.

The same basic human need led to various forms of identifying land property throughout ancient Europe. The main emphasis was placed on defining the debts owed by lower social classes to their respective authorities. In ancient Crete, sacerdots would often take over the land belonging to small owners, leading to a vast increase in the wealth of the priesthood and religious institutions.

Trade connections between different parts of the world made it so that various methods of management were shared between neighboring civilizations. Thus, in ancient Greece, we can find bookkeeping practices which had started out in Mesopotamia. Administrative and territorial records kept up to date by armies of scribes throughout Europe can be seen as an early type of cadastre. This system is adopted by the peoples who would later be integrated into the Roman Empire. Divided into clearly structured social classes, Roman society, through its authorities, would grant properties to the middle class, mostly free peasants who would receive land in conquered provinces. This is one of the main reasons for which, starting in the 1st century BC, predecessors of topographers began to measure land surfaces and draw survey maps.

The fall of the Roman Empire and the advent of the migratory peoples meant that much of Roman knowledge regarding the situation of land ownership was lost, especially in Eastern and Central Europe. Once the Roman Empire was dismembered and reduced to a



despotic Italian state, the Middle Ages brought about the apparition of great feudal lands owned by a small number of families, while the number of free peasants greatly decreased.

Starting with the expansion of Arabic culture, the need for accurate real estate records arose once again, given that the lands that were conquered were either claimed by the new state or left to their original owners in exchange for a form of tribute. Arabic influence in medieval Europe led to an improvement in the situation of the peasant class, taxes being reduced from one third of the harvested resources to the famous tithe representing one tenth of total income.

The expanding Muslim empire also strengthens its bookkeeping system, its main source of revenue being the real estate tax imposed upon the population by the finance ministry. In Muslim culture, any property title had to be drafted in the presence of two witnesses – this, together with scientific discoveries in the field of mathematics, especially algebra – led to vast improvements in administration.

The 12th century marks the appearance of the first true cadastre, introduced by Charles IV after obtaining independence for the Principality of Milan.

The evolution of states and cities in Western Europe led to an expansion and evolution of the cadastral system, therefore, starting in the first half of the 19th century, it begins to be used in Romanian-speaking territories situated, at the time, under Austro-Hungarian authority.

Based on German and Roman law and consolidated through the French Civil Code, cadastral activity gains in importance as a cornerstone of all human activity in modern society. Thus, public authorities, both local and central, revolve around the main three functions of a cadastral survey, as known today.

The first is the technical function, represented by cadastral measurements and compiling maps which show the boundaries of parcels, buildings, administrative-territorial units and delimiting areas where construction is permitted. The technical cadastral survey marks the limits of building land, arable land, vineyards and orchards, rivers and lakes, forests and pastures. This survey is the starting point for all analyses regarding further development of human settlements within a county, region or state.

The second function represents the judiciary cadastre, also known as the land registry, recording judiciary proceedings regarding property rights and mentioning the various tasks aimed at a certain real estate property. Knowledge of judiciary documents is necessary for both individuals and authorities, so that various legal errors can be successfully avoided.

The third function, which ultimately generated the compiling of cadastral registries and is of greatest importance to public authorities, is the economic function which allows the value of a parcel of land and the structures built upon it to be estimated, allowing for a fair level of taxation to be imposed upon its owner.

Another important attribute of public authority is keeping a correct record of the established and migrating population. Registries within the local authority are tasked with indexing births, marriages and deaths, helping compile the demographic history and evolution of a settlement. Census bureaus are helpful in managing data regarding the established or migrating population in a settlement, allowing for pertinent analyses in the process of local development.

The connection between the three functions of a cadastral register and the national census bureau is the name of the private or public access pathway which leads to the properties or residences belonging to individuals.

Naming roads does not only facilitate keeping their record. Road names are found, under various forms, in all administrative and judiciary documents. No construction approvals and no urbanistic certificates can be emitted without mentioning the street names. Urbanistic studies are also possible only in conjunction with proper knowledge of streets and roads, mentioning their characteristic elements and, most importantly, their names. An entire set of judiciary documents refers to the same elements of identifications: property titles, rental contracts and so on. In day to day life, the names of streets one frequents are permanently present, but often neglected or ignored.

Alongside their practical function, the cultural function of street names is just as important.

If, in a distant past, names for transport routes were based on elements of local tradition, after the first half of the 19th century, with the appearance of the modern nation state, naming streets became an attribution of local or central authorities. These authorities, through specific committees, established a number of street names which themselves altered and created elements of local tradition.

Based on the names of streets, and their respective succession throughout the years, we can therefore talk about the history of a specific place and, implicitly, the history of a settlement. The connection between historical phases undergone by a settlement and the names assigned to its streets can be observed in a study dedicated to the toponymy of Bucharest streets.

In the last 200 years of its history, the city of Bucharest has expanded in a spectacular way, starting from a nucleus centered on the princely court, today's historic center, stretching over the old suburbs where various guilds of manufacturers had settled and reaching, in the first phase, a ring road connecting 19th century barriers. Step by step, the city grew to its present extent, reaching close to the ring of forts conceived and built by Carol I for the city's defense. Nowadays, the main ring roads and railways mark the boundaries of an area where, over time, a number of settlements grew together.

Analyzing local toponyms, we realize that many of them remind us of the city's history, even though they are so often overlooked by its citizens.

Let us therefore attempt a quick overview of these names.

In the beginning, the settlement grew around the princely residence, nowadays Bucharest's historic center, where street names remind of the occupations of early inhabitants: bucket-makers (Căldărari), merchants (Lipscani, Băcani), hat-makers (Șepcari), knife-makers (Gabriceni), pawnbrokers (Zarafii). For fiscal reasons, local administration would periodically compile an index of residences and their inhabitants.

The next phase of development took place along the main arteries that penetrate the city.

Their names remind of the direction they faced, looking away from the city. One would walk towards Pantelimon village along Pantelimon road and leave town after having crossed Pantelimon barrier. Toward Dudești, a settlement of Bulgarian emigrants, one would walk along Dudești road and crossed Dudești barrier. Dobroteasa road led to Văcărești – its later name was Calea Văcărești, reminding of Văcărești monastery and, later, the prison bearing the same name.

Beilik (Beilicului) road, the main entrance for the Sultan's emissaries or other travelers from the Balkans, would later receive the name Calea Șerban Vodă, after the first settlement in its path, Șerban Vodă commune, situated around Văcărești monastery. Calitzi road, the path to Craiova, crossed a poor area inhabited mainly by Gypsy slaves who worked the Metropolis's vineyards. Ulița Podului de Pământ (Earthen Bridge road) would later be renamed Belvedere, as it was the route to one of the beautiful panoramic points situated on the left bank of the Dâmbovița. After the war of 1877-1878, its name changed to Plevna road in memory of one of the main victories of the Romanian Principalities' army. Târgoviște road, today's Grivița road, led to Târgoviște, the capital city in those days, after crossing Târgoviște barrier.

Still, perhaps the best known is Mogoșoaiei road (today's Calea Victoriei), which connected the princely residence with the summer palace of one of the most important Wallachian princes of the 18th century, Constantin Brâncoveanu. This road was particularly important because it was frequented by the caravans bringing goods to and from Transylvania.

Herăstrău road, today's Calea Dorobanților, not as important as the aforementioned streets, would lead to the waters of Colentina river where sawmills would process wood (hence the name, related to "fierăstrău" – "saw").

Ulița Târgului de Afară ("the road to the outside market") led to today's Union Square, which was then a central meeting point for traders. They would organize cattle markets, especially around the saturday before Pentecost, known as "Elders' Day" ("Moși"), hence the later name Calea Moșilor. This was also the main road leading to Focșani and all of Moldova region.

The above list of street names is not only part of local history, even if some names have been replaced: it is a nucleus for residential, commercial and industrial activities which

authorities have administered in various forms: suburbs (mahalale), neighborhoods and, currently, sectors.

If, initially, street names were mainly allotted to important accessways, once the number of inhabitants, residences and institutions grew, every street was granted a name. Given this situation, administrative authorities had to form services specializing in managing the increasingly complicated records.

Very soon, the issue of street names became a political objective, as well as a social one. Analyzing a list of existing streets, one can identify a number of categories, which can be classified according to the period in which they were instituted.

Some placenames remained in use over many years, mainly those connected to local history and points of interest. In Romanian settlements, the church was often the nucleus of urban development, therefore nearly every neighborhood has a street bearing the name of a consecrated place of worship.

St. Constantine street is situated next to the church dedicated to St. Constantine. The same goes for St. Elias (Sf. Ilie), Great Friday (Sf. Vineri), Biserica Albă (White Church), Biserica Alexe (Alexe Church), Biserica Enei (Enei Church) etc.

But it was not only places of worship which influenced the attribution of street names. Thus, next to the abattoir built in the second half of the 19th century we find Abatorului (Abattoir) boulevard. Close to the former Assan mill we find Vaporul lui Assan street. Other institutions which lent their names to streets or squares in the vicinity are the Medical Military Institute, the former Tobacco Union, Gara de Nord train station, Bucharest University, Ghica Palace as well as, more recently, “Globus” State Circus, lending its name to Circului (Circus) alley.

Other types of institutions influenced street names as well. The route of the first great aqueduct supplying Bucharest became Calea Apeductului (Aqueduct Road), the railway line connecting Bucharest’s rail ringway to Cotroceni train station became known as Liniei (Line) Street. Vatra Luminoasă street was named after the „Vatra Luminoasă” Asylum for the blind, founded by Queen Elisabeta and King Carol I.

Situated in an area with countless small hills crossed by the waters of the Dâmbovița, 19<sup>th</sup> century Bucharest was surrounded by many vineyards belonging to local boyars and monasteries, which employed the local population and Gypsy slaves. Many street names remind of these vast estates covered in vineyards. Șoseaua Viilor (Vineyard Road) connected the city to the vineyards of Filaret Hill. We can also identify Intrarea Viilor (Vineyard Entrance), Drumul între Vii (Road between the vineyards), Ziduri între Vii (Wall between the vineyards), Heliade între Vii and other wine-related street names.

Furthermore, the city’s history was forever connected to the evolution of the state. This was also reflected in street names.

After the Declaration of Independence following the war of 1877-1878, many streets were granted names in memory of battles fought by the Romanian Principalities' army: Victoriei (Victory), Griviței, Plevnei, Rahovei, Smârdan (all sites of famous battles), but also Dorobanți and Călărași (dedicated to specific military units).

Many heroes of this war were also immortalized as street names: General Gheorghe Manu, Captain Valter Mărăcineanu, Major Gheorghe Șonțu, Colonel Constantin Blaremburg, Sergeant Florea Blejan, Sergeant Ion Grigore, Private Bara Savu, Captain Constantin Mesisescu, Major Dimitrie Giurescu, Lieutenant Dumitru Lemnea.

Yet another important event in Romanian history is the First World War, leading to the union of all Romanian regions under one crown. The memories of battles fought during the war, events following the military conflict and the Union itself are preserved as street names: Mărăști and Mărășești boulevards, named after sites of famous confrontations, as well as the street dedicated to Ecaterina Teodorescu, remind of the motto „One shall not pass through here”.

Other First World War heroes who gave their names to Bucharest streets are: Sergeant Constantin Mușat, Lieutenant Constantin Zlătescu, Sub-lieutenant Dima Cristache, Eugen Iosif, Lieutenant Dimitrie Ganovici, Ștefan Ștefănescu, Lieutenant Mihail Foișoreanu, Major Nicolae Capșa, Private Ion Topor, Lieutenant Victor Manu, Lieutenant Radu Robescu, Lieutenant Sachelarie Visarion, Private Savu Marin, Major Artur Vârtejanu, Major Petre Crețu. Taking part in the First World war signified once again the partnership between the Romanian and French administrations, as well as the two countries' military forces.

One of the French heroes who took part in battles at the time and was honored by means of a street name is aviator Jean Texier. Yet another street bears the name of General Henri Mathias Berthelot, leader of the French delegation alongside the Romanian government during the war.

Romania's participation in the Second World War is marked, mostly, via street names honoring heroes fallen on the Western front. Given the fact that they were instituted after 1948, the names belong mainly to soldiers and lower-rank officers. Thus, we can identify streets named after Private Nicolae Barbu, Private Ion Ciocodeica, Corporal Ion Agapie, Sergeant Alexandru Cutieru, Sergeant Major Anghel Cara, Sergeant Gheorghe Anghel, Anghel Mihail, Corporal Anghelache Ivan, Sergeant Constantin Apostol, Sergeant Dan Augustin, Sergeant Ion Barbu, Corporal Gheorghe Bulugea, Sergeant Ion Brujba, Corporal Nicolae Cerga, Corporal Petre Mișca, Sub-lieutenant Nicolae Belerciu, Major Vasile Băcilă.

After 1945, Bucharest undergoes substantial change in its territorial and administrative aspects. January 1948 marks the first national census undertaken in the post-war political context, indexing the population in its new territorial boundaries, based on households as a basic observation unit.

Following this census, Bucharest was home to massive operations of naming and renaming streets and squares.

Even before 1945, it was suggested that Bucharest municipal authority be expanded to include a number of suburban settlements. The census showed that several street names were found in two or more of these new areas of Bucharest. By renaming existing streets, most duplicates were eliminated.

Aside from that, the census showed that the division of large parcels of land in the suburban area, approved by local administration, led to the appearance of many streets identified only by letters of the alphabet, a situation seen in each of the parcels. All in all, the census works generated, over a very short time period, the attribution or replacement of 1500 street names.

Analyzing the operation statistically, it can be noted that within Bucharest city proper and subordinated suburban communes there were at least 400 arteries which did not bear any official name, as well as a number of duplicate names. Within the operation, a few principles were applied which had been proposed years before: among others, the grouping of related names geographically, which would serve for better orientation both for the general public and authorities tasked with various duties.

Thus, related names formed ensembles of streets. Today's Floreasca quarter (SNIC parcel) is home to streets bearing names of famous composers (P. I. Chaikovski, J.S. Bach, Frederic Chopin, W. A. Mozart), streets in Rahova parcel were named after soldiers who had fallen on the Western front, especially on the Chekhoslovakian battlefields (Lieutenant Ilie Câmpeanu, Sergeant Scarlat, Corporal Preda, Corporal Ilina, Private Nicolae Porojan). The same goes for Furaje-Militari parcel (Sergeant Ion Vieru, Sergeant Constantin Apostol, Sergeant Alexandru Cutieru, Sergeant Ion Marcu). Ostrov parcel on Imper island was now home to streets related to pisciculture: Crapului (Carp), Știucii (Pike) etc.; Jianu/Marmorosch Blank parcels were granted street names reminding of cultural figures – writers and painters: A. P. Chekhov, A. S. Pushkin, Maxim Gorki, Leon Tolstoi, Dante Alighieri, Nikolai Gogol, J. B. Molière, Ion Negulici, Barbu Iscovescu, Daniel Rosenthal... As shown, the census set the stage for two administrative measures with a huge impact on city life, then and now. Street names were crucial in the famous Decree no. 92 of 1950 regarding the nationalization of residential buildings, as well as Bill no. 5 of September 7<sup>th</sup> 1950 regarding the administrative and economic organization of the territory of the People's Republic of Romania, eliminating the traditional districts (județe) and instituting Soviet-inspired regions and rayons.

In the next phase, the attribution and management of street names was not granted much attention. Thus, in 1964, prior to the great changes of 1965, major interventions started in the Bucharest toponymic ensemble, in order to remove duplicates and ensure accurate recording of the local situation. No less than 1000 streets were renamed in the year 1965. Most of these were situated on the outskirts of the city, where new, unauthorized houses had been built, which were gradually approved of by the authorities, together with their respective accessways.

Very few streets were named after famous figures until 1990, given the concentration of power and Nicolae Ceaușescu's personality cult. Even though the city expanded, the number of streets remained fairly constant, since many areas inside the city were being systematized, small buildings being replaced by 10-storey apartment blocks, therefore decreasing the number of streets in those areas.

Between 1977 and 1989, systematization of central Bucharest, a concept elaborated since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, was undertaken in a radical manner, completely restructuring large areas of the city. Implicitly, a great number of streets disappeared, together with their names and history.

1990 signified a threshold, the beginning of a new phase in urban development.

In the first half of the year, right after the events of December 1989, provisional authorities acting under Decree no. 1990 of March 14<sup>th</sup> 1990 replaced the names of more or less important Communist figures. Thus disappeared street names such as Alexandru Moghioroș, Alecu Constantinescu, Olga Bancic, Bela Brainer, Emil Bodnăraș, Iosip Broz Tito, Filimon Sârbu, Justin Georgescu, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Ho Chi Minh, Ilie Pintilie, Ion Șulea etc.

Over the following years, the "Comission for analyzing proposals regarding the attribution and replacement of street names", under Bucharest City Hall, approved of the reinstitution of street names reminding of the Romanian Royal Family. Figures such as Queen Elisabeta, Queen Maria, King Carol I and King Ferdinand were once again honored by means of street names, as before 1947, when King Mihai I was forced to abdicate. Moreso, streets were named after prominent leaders of the opposition movement in the 40's and 50's: Iuliu Maniu, Ion Mihalache, Constantin Titel Petrescu, Corneliu Coposu.

The attribution of names by local authorities after 1990 did not only signify the restoration of historic streets or honors awarded to illustrious figures. It was also a pragmatic undertaking, given the restitution of many plots of land and structures to their original owners.

The institution of Bill no. 18/1991 regarding agricultural zones on the outskirts of the city imposed the attribution of names to the roads created to facilitate access to the parcels returned to their original owners, as well as their registration into local administrative databases. For these roads, the "Comission for analyzing proposals regarding the attribution and replacement of street names", under Bucharest City Hall, proposed a rule we have mentioned before: clustering together similar names, even if they are just geographical in nature.

Therefore, in the Western area, allotted to Sector 6, we have roads reminding of river valleys: Valea Furcii, Valea Cricovului, Valea Doftanei. Roads to the South, within the boundaries of Sector 4, are named after hills: Dealul Cucului, Dealul Corbului, Dealul Leului, Dealu Frumos, Dealul Crișului, Dealul Geoagiului. In the North, part of Sector 1, roads are

named after mountain peaks: Piscul Sadului, Piscul Lung, Piscul Rusului, Piscul Muntelui, Piscul Pietrei.

Drawing a conclusion regarding the functionality of street names, one can easily notice how we use them to find our way within any city, thus they are part of daily life. Local administration uses street names in all its fields of activity, from taxation to investment, keeping track of inhabitants and developing systematization projects. Street names help us learn elements of history and literature, find out important facts about the places we inhabit or those we are just passing through. Street names are part of the fabric of society: they can broaden the horizon of culture, synchronically and diachronically, serving as fertile soil for our spiritual evolution.

#### THE TERRITORY NORTH OF THE DANUBE, A WELCOMING REFUGE FOR BALKAN POPULATIONS (STREETS NAMED AFTER FAMOUS BULGARIANS)

*Some remarks on cultural connotations of urbanonyms and idiomacity in a contrastive perspective. Urbanonyms, such as street names, square names and names of other places in the city, can carry cultural connotations, which is of great importance in a contrastive perspective. The 18th and 19th centuries were a period of great activity when, especially around Bucharest, a number of settlements were founded by people from south of the Danube who were fleeing from an oppressive regime. These new inhabitants would assimilate the language and customs of the native population, combining them with their own culture and traditions. A lot of streets were named after famous Bulgarian people who had a profound influence on Romanian culture.*

*Keywords: onomastics, urbanonyms, idiomacity, famous Bulgarians, street names, Bucharest, cultural heritage.*

Situated at the confluence of Eastern and Western cultures, the territory between the Danube and the Carpathians has always been a refuge for entire populations faced with pressure from the greater empires in the neighboring regions.

In the beginning, the dense Vlăsiei forest provided shelter for numerous groups, forming the nuclei of current settlements. The disappearance of vast forested areas, which were replaced with agricultural lands, led to countless small settlements with related populations appearing close to larger towns and cities.

The 18th and 19th centuries were a period of great activity when, especially around Bucharest, a number of settlements were founded by people from south of the Danube who were fleeing from an oppressive regime. Finding a place where they could live, work and raise their children in safety, they strived to create for themselves a familiar environment.



These new inhabitants would assimilate the language and customs of the native population, combining them with their own culture and traditions.

Many important figures would arise from their ranks, people who had a profound influence on Romanian culture. Their merits would later be rewarded through the naming of streets and roads in their memory.

For centuries, the lands north and south of the Danube river have been inhabited by people living in symbiosis with each other, a relationship that benefitted every member of these communities. It is well known that the river had never represented an obstacle for those who wanted to cross from one strand to the other. The vicissitudes of history had a great impact on these people's lives, teaching them how to live together and help one another in spite of transient conflicts. Many migrant populations have passed over the Thracian people, over the Geto-Dacians and, later, over the Romans creating a unique ethnic puzzle. Located between western and oriental cultures, this territory has seen the rise and fall of many states that sparked the interest of great world powers. The succession of the great empires – be it the Roman or the Byzantine Empire, or even the Ottomans – has definitely influenced the evolution of the people who were living here. However, the numerous ethnic groups that resided in the area have been subjected to a long and difficult process of social overlapping and blending which led to the alternation of times spent in peaceful cohabitation and times of intense, violent confrontations, a struggle that still goes on even today. From a historical point of view, the immigration/emigration phenomena which made populations that originated south of Danube to cross the river over to the territory that nowadays belongs to Romania were favored by a complex series of political, economic, religious and cultural factors. History was never too gentle in respect to the populations living here or to those just passing by. The Thracians were conquered by the Romans, but the Romans were not able to stop the migrating tribes that came flooding from Asia, crossing over the Ural Mountains.

During the following period, the Byzantine Empire succeeded to establish a stable and progressive society that relied mainly on culture, despite ongoing conflicts. Thus, beginning with the 14th century, the expansion of the Ottoman Empire towards the north boundary of the Balkan Peninsula, the siege of Constantinople, the disappearance of the independent Balkan states, the bloody battles that created acute social problems forced masses living south of the Danube to seek refuge on the left strand of the river, where the wide Vlăscia Forest provided them with more favorable conditions. The Romanian lands subsequently became a genuine haven for oppressed crowds in the Balkans such as Bulgarians, Serbians, Greeks and Albanians. Romanian cities will become important staging grounds for the national awakening of the Balkan people in the 18th-19th centuries. Moreover, the immigrations were also encouraged by the economic context because the trade inside the United Principalities flourished. Bulgarian, Serbian, Greek, Albanian, Armenian traders and the merchants who lived south of the Danube became a crucial presence in the economic life of the capital of Wallachia. The street where the traders unpacked their goods took the name of Gabroveni after the name of Gabrovo city located in Central Bulgaria which supplied drapers with great quality cloths. Even builders were particularly sought-after due to the skills they acquired in Istanbul or in catholic monasteries on the shores of Dalmatia. Thus, Mihnea Vodă brings

various craftsmen from South of the Danube in order to finish the construction of Troița Monastery, built with the purpose of one day hosting the bones of his family after their death and for the future construction of a nearby princely Palace.

Mihnea Vodă promised freedom of heavy tolls and taxes. Perhaps these South-Danubian colonists settled the lands south of Radu Vodă Monastery, in a district of Bucharest that would later become known by the name “Slobozia Domnească” (the Princely Freedom). Furthermore, for a long period of time the street now known as Elena Cuza was once called “strada Fraților” (the Street of Brothers), a referral to the brotherhoods of these construction workers who played a very important role in the development and the restoration of civil and religious buildings of the country’s capital. The sanctified martyr of the Romanian people, Constantin Brâncoveanu used these workers for the constructions he raised during his long and prolific reign, among them being the Saint Gheorghe’s Church which was reconsecrated this year, 300 years from its first consecration. The tax exemptions attracted numerous families from south of the Danube, leading to the extension of the “Slobozia Domnească” to the shantytowns we knew by the names of Broșteni, Cavafi and Tabaci. The development of Bucharest, the facilities created by the rule or by some boyars, owners of large estates that needed workers led to the growth of the city’s suburbs. C.C. Giurescu, in his paper "Istoria Bucureștilor" (The History of Bucharest), wrote that “the colonists are also responsible for the settlement of Cioplea, founded 1812 by Catholic Bulgarians from Nicopol, upon the Danube”.

Around the beginning of the 19th century, due to the Russo-Turkish War of 1806-1812 and the plague epidemic, many Bulgarians leave their homeland and settled in the village neighboring the Dudești family estate near Bucharest. On this domain, the Dudești, an important Romanian boyar family, had built a manor around 1680. The coming of the Bulgarians to Wallachia was well received by the Bibescu boyars, who employed many of the Bulgarians in exchange for plots of land for gardening as well as building houses and a church. Around 1812, the first Cioplea church was built, near today’s Râmnicu Sărat street. The first Bulgarians settled here were Catholics, so the church, which had first functioned in a simple private residence, acted as episcopal residence for the Bishopric of Nicopolis ad Hystrum, which led the Wallachian, Bulgarian and Serbian vicariates. As with all communities, an important site for the Bulgarian community of Dudești was the cemetery. In Cioplea cemetery, one could identify family names that are specific to the community: Banciu, Iozu, Ciamur, Slave, Ciopolan, Ambrozie, Sebe, Ruse, Petcu (initially, Petcov), Stoian, Ghetus, Ivan, Vâlcu.

After 1864, Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza grants land to more families of Bulgarian peasants. The village thrives, with its festivals, landowners, herds of buffalo and vegetable gardens. The grandchildren of emigrants who had crossed the frozen Danube were now actively participating in all important events of Romanian life. Carol I and Carol II, as well as the first government after 1945, also bestowed land upon the Bulgarians in the area, who had already become famous for their agricultural tradition, supplying Bucharest with vegetables, flowers and milk. Alongside Dudești-Cioplea, other settlements in Wallachia had significant Bulgarian populations. Attested since around 1532, when Prince Vlad Vodă drowns in the

waters of the Dâmbovița, the village of Popești is another place where a community of Roman-Catholic Bulgarians establishes itself.

Among the earliest colonists from south of the Danube who settled on Romanian soil in the last 3 centuries are the Paulicians, coming from around the city of Nikopolis. During the 19th century, around 50-60 families of Paulicians were settled on the domain of Popești by the granddaughter of Radu Popescu, forming the village of Pavlicheni. The name of the village, which lasted up to the 20th century, clearly shows these Bulgarians' origin, which was different from the origin of Orthodox Bulgarians who had also lived in these areas for hundreds of years. In 1925, the commune of Popești-Leurdeni (nowadays Popești-Leordeni) also included a village of Paulicians, Popești-Pavlicheni, alongside the villages of Popești-Români, Leurdeni and Cula. The waves of immigration are mostly due to the special status of the Romanian countries, who had a great degree of internal autonomy, with positive effects on neighboring populations, who were oppressed to a greater extent by the Ottoman administration, both economically and culturally. Therefore, a large number of highly educated people from south of the Danube migrated north in order to continue their cultural and religious activity in freedom, thereby contributing to the development of Romanian culture and being honored by Bucharest street names.

One of the most famous promoters of Romanian culture, named by Mihai Eminescu « the son of Pepelea, the one clever as a proverb », Anton Pann, by his real name Antonie Pantoleon-Petroveanu, was born sometime between 1793 and 1797 into the family of Pantoleon (or Pantaleon) Petrov, a bucket-maker and tinsmith from Sliven, south of the Danube, on the left bank of the Tundza river in the Balkan mountains, present-day Bulgaria. His father dies young, and his mother Tomaida emigrates north of the Danube together with young Anton, who grows to be a poet, composer and professor of church music, a writer and publicist, one of the masters of the Romanian language and speaker of Bulgarian, Greek, Turkish and Russian. At the age of ten he joins the choir of the Great Church in Chișinău, after which he settles in Bucharest in 1812. He sings in Olari church and “Cu sfinți” church, and joins the music school founded by Dionisie Fotino as well as the school founded by Petru Efesiul, where he learns not only the musical arts, but also the skill of printing. His interest toward music manifests itself in his famous collection of Phanariote-era songs, inspired by Byzantine and Ottoman melos. He actively participates in all political events during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and dies in Bucharest in the year 1854.

South of the Danube, the township of Dirrachia/Dirahion was the birthplace of Ioan Cucuzel, a famous church composer and musician of the 13th century. Having spent most of his life on Mount Athos, he was canonized - Saint John Cucuzel is nowadays known as the protector of psalmists and church singers. After his death, he was buried in the Church of the Holy Archangels, next to his hermitage and the Great Lavra. A street was named after him in Bucharest, in the year 1929. Through religious writings carefully printed by cultural figures stemming from south of the Danube, Romanian culture had a lot to gain, all while expanding the national spirituality of all the peoples from south of the Danube.

The 19th century was the most active period in the rebirth of national spirituality for all Danubian peoples, inspired by the national and social movements in Western Europe.

The Romanian-speaking countries were a place where the national movements of people south of the Danube would concentrate and organize themselves. In the first half of the 19th century we find Greeks, Albanians, Bulgarians and Serbs exiled here, filled with the spirit of national revival and wishing to free their peoples from Ottoman oppression. The revolutionary spirit which expanded all over Europe in 1848 manifested itself among the Balkan populations who traveled and settled in Bucharest to obtain academic education and print books which they would then distribute in their home territories.

In Romania, the Bulgarian exile, led by Hristo Botev and Stephan Stambulov, founded a movement promoting the independence of the Bulgarians through literature and art. All of the Bulgarian exiles are supporters of the founding of the Bulgarian Science Academy in 1869 in the Romanian town of Braila. Born January 8th 1848, Hristo Botev, considered the greatest Bulgarian poet, was sent to Odessa by his father Petko Botev to complete his studies. After graduating, he taught for a while in Bessarabia before returning to his home town in 1863 to take over his father's seat. Due to a speech against the Ottoman authority and Bulgarian aristocrats whom he accused of cooperating with the Ottomans, he was forced to emigrate and settled in Romania, where he actively took part in revolutionary activity. Between 1869 and 1871 he leads the journal "Word of the Bulgarian emigrants", where he publishes his early works. Later, he writes for "Svoboda" (Freedom), edited by writer and revolutionary Liuben Karavelov, and the satirical paper "Budilnik" (The alarm clock). In 1876, leading a detachment of revolutionaries, he decides to join the revolt of the Bulgarians, being mortally wounded on June 1st 1876 during a fight with the Ottoman troops. Acknowledging his participation in the struggle for national freedom, the Bucharest authorities grant his name to a boulevard in the year 1945.

Thus, the revolutionary movements in the first half of the 19th century, culminating in the Union of the Romanian principalities, perhaps the most important political event for the Romanian people, also formed the premise for a national revival of all Balkan peoples. Following the declaration of independence by the Romanian state and active participation of the Romanian army in the Russo-Turkish war between 1877 and 1878, the states south of the Danube reemerged and were able to obtain independence from the Ottomans themselves.

In the war of 1877-1878, the Romanian army performed excellently – both its officers and its brave soldiers, leading to the capitulation of Ottoman troops under General Osman Pasha. Among the most bloody battles was the fight for Plevna and its powerful fortifications, led by Romanian Prince Carol I at the demand of Archduke Nicholas between September and December 1877. Rahova redoubt and Opanez redoubt are conquered in November after heavy fighting, and in 1878 Romanian troops led by General Mihail Cernat conquer the strongpoint of Smârdan, leading to the liberation of Vidin, where Romanian troops are well received by the locals. The return of the victorious Romanian army in 1878 was marked by countless festivities marking the independence of the modern Romanian state. On this occasion, a number of Bucharest streets received the names of places where important battles

were fought. Thus, in the Bucharest Official Monitor, decree no. 38/1878 granted the name of Smârdan to former Germană street, Rahova to the former Calicilor street, Plevnei (Pleven) to former Belvedere street. In the year 1912, following a vote of the Communal Council on June 26th, the names Opanez and Vidin are granted to newly traced streets near Tei lake.

The war of 1877-1878 led to the reconfiguration of Balkan territories and the constitution of an autonomous Bulgarian principality, which gained its independence in 1908 after integrating a number of territories inhabited by Bulgarians.

Bucharest's Ferdinand boulevard (which had gained its name in the year 1900) was renamed Gheorghe Dimitrov (1882-1949) after the death of the former Bulgarian prime minister and leader of the Komintern. After 1990, it regained its original name.

The poet Panait Cerna was born September 25th, 1881, in the village of Cerna, close to Măcin, in Dobrudja, hence his pen name, Cerna. His father was schoolteacher Panait Stanciof, who came from Bulgaria. During his high school studies, Cerna became well acquainted with German, French and - probably – Italian. Despite suffering from tuberculosis, he managed to obtain his university degree with the distinction "Magna cum laude". In 1907, Titu Maiorescu awarded him a scholarship so he could study in Germany and obtain his doctoral degree. Soon after his successful thesis on "The lyric of ideas" earned him the title of "Doctor magna cum laude", Cerna died due to galloping pneumonia. He was buried in Leipzig, his death being mourned by famous contemporaries such as Tudor Arghezi. Cerna, an Intimist, minor Romantic and Traditionalist poet, wrote about the great issues concerning human existence, man's attitude toward life, love and the society of his time. His name was granted to a street in Bucharest in 1926.

In 1948, one of the boulevards in Bucharest is named after Hristo Botev, a Bulgarian poet and national revolutionary, considered by Bulgarians to be a symbolic historical figure and national hero. In 1867 he made a public speech against the Ottoman authorities. Botev was pressed into leaving the town as a result. He opted for Romania, at the time an asylum for many Bulgarian exiles. Greatly influenced by the Bulgarian revolutionaries who lived in Romania, Botev led a life typical for any revolutionary. From 1869 to 1871 Botev worked again as a teacher in Bessarabia, keeping close relations with the Bulgarian revolutionary movement and its leaders. In June 1871 he became editor of the revolutionary newspaper "Word of the Bulgarian Emigrants" where he began publishing his early poetic works. During the war of 1876, fighting against the Ottoman troops, he was killed by a bullet in his chest. In 1875 Botev had published his "Songs and Poems" reflecting the sentiments of the poor people, struggling for their freedom against both foreign and domestic tyrants.

All these street names (urbanonyms) can carry cultural connotations and reflect the respectful attitude of Romanian authorities toward the ethnic identity of Bulgarians, with whom Romanians have lived together for centuries.

## THE TOPONYMIC HERITAGE OF BUCHAREST

### STREETS BEARING JEWISH NAMES

*Regarding the protection of cultural heritage and its integration into greater projects of durable development, Romania has yet to implement efficient, consequent measures according to international conventions and public interest represented by cultural and natural heritage. The present paper, regarding Bucharest streets named after people of Jewish origin, past and present, is a component of the interdisciplinary, comparative study of the toponymy of Bucharest streets. These streets, situated in old quarters of the city, with historic houses and gardens, bear the names of notable figures in the local Jewish community. They are a definitory component of European identity, which must be known to the public in order to increase the respective areas' appeal and promote durable development and social cohesion. The toponymic heritage in Bucharest is proof of a natural cohabitation of Romanian and Jewish populations, thankfully without having been separated by the walls of a ghetto.*

*Keywords: cultural heritage, toponymy, Bucharest, Jewish, cohabitation.*

Throughout the territory between the Danube and Tisza, from the Dnestr to the Criș rivers, the lands once inhabited by the Dacians, the northern branch of the Thracians, were crossed throughout the last two millennia by numerous populations stemming from the East or West. All those who passed through these lands left their marks on the conscience of the Romanian people, whose ethnogenesis took place in this area. Reminding us every day of these peoples are toponyms assigned to regions, rivers, roads and settlements, with their respective quarters and streets.

One of the peoples who passed or settled the current territory of Romania were the Jews. Certain historians who have studied ancient epigraphs consider that the Jewish people began to arrive in these lands since the first millennium of our era.

In the 14th century, the Romanian principalities were settled by Jews coming from Central Europe, the so-called Ashkenazi Jews speaking Yiddish, an idiom based on a German dialect, while during Ottoman domination these lands were settled by Sephardi Jews, originating from Western Europe and bringing to the Balkans their Spanish-born dialect called Ladino.

The presence of Jews in Romania became numerically, economically and culturally significant beginning with the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, after large numbers of Galician Jews were forced westward by anti-Semitic measures undertaken by the Russian Tsarist regime. Their integration into social and cultural life took place together with the emancipation of the population settled in Moldavia and Wallachia.

Members of the Jewish community actively supported the 1848 Revolution, with names such as Barbu Iscovescu, Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, Solomon Halfon, Davicion Bally, Hillel Manoaha. The painter Constantin Daniel Rosenthal gave his life for the Revolution, after Austro-Hungarian authorities captured him, took him to Budapest and tortured him to death. The Islaz Proclamation demanded, among others, „the emancipation of Israelites and political rights for fellow countrymen of a different faith”. After the two Romanian principalities were united under Alexandru Ioan Cuza, important steps were taken

towards integration, with many Jews being appointed to public office and receiving the right to participate in municipal elections. In solidarity with the rest of the inhabitants of the Kingdom of Romania, many Jews took part in the First World War, with some reaching the rank of colonel or being decorated for their heroism.

The history of Bucharest also brings out the spirit of cohabitation of different ethnic backgrounds, with the city's administration taking care to keep or attribute street names reminding of great Jewish figures who, through their activity, brought a contribution to the evolution of Romanian society.

The present study contains a systematization, an analysis and a generalization of streets bearing names of Romanian figures of Jewish heritage, throughout three chapters:

- Current names of streets
- Past names of streets, presently bearing different names
- Streets which no longer exist

Current street names reflecting Jewish figures:	
YEAR OF ATTRIBUTION	NAME
1911	Dr. Iacob Felix (1832-1905)
1930	Mămulari
1947	Iuliu Barasch (1815-1863)
1948	Barbu Iscovescu (1816-1854)
1948	Constantin Daniel Rosenthal (1820-1851)
1948	Barbu Lazareanu (1881-1957)
1948	Constantin Dobrogeanu Gherea (1855-1920)
1948	Jacques M. Elias (1844-1923)
1961	Maximilian Popper
1993	Marcel Iancu (1895-1984)
1994	Victor Brauner (1903-1966)
1995	Margareta Sterian (1897-1992)
1995	Mihail Sebastian (1907-1945)
1996	Wilhelm Filderman (1882-1963)
2003	Iosif Sava (1933-1998)
	Traian Popovici (1892-1946)

In the immediate vicinity of Filantropia hospital, starting 1911 we find the name „Dr. Iacob Felix” attributed to the street going from Buzești to Filantropia (now Ion Mihalache) boulevards.

Born January 6th 1832 in Horschitz (Bohemia, Austrian Empire, now Czech Republic) in a family of Austrian Jews, Iacob Dimitrie Felix studies in Gitschin and Prague. Later on, he studies Medicine in Prague and Vienna. He then moves to Bucharest where, as chief doctor of the city, he makes great advances in the field of hygiene. He leads the Turnu Măgurele military hospitals during the Independence War. Due to his great merits, he is appointed to the Romanian Academy as a titular member in June 1879, where he serves as Vice-President between 1885 and 1886. He dies in Bucharest on the 19th of January 1905.

After 1945, following a great increase in the territory of Bucharest through incorporation of suburban settlements, more names of Jewish origin are assigned to streets as the index of street names had to be updated and reviewed.

Thus, in the Bucharest Jewish quarter, the name of Iuliu Barasch is granted 1947 to the street formerly known as Biserica Udricani, stretching between Matei Basarab and Olteni streets.

Iuliu Barasch was born July 17th 1815 in Brody, Galicia, then in the Austrian Empire. He studies Medicine in Berlin and Leipzig and then settles in Romania, becoming a doctor in Bucharest and teaching natural history in St. Sava College, the School of Agriculture and the Bucharest Military School, later becoming a professor in the National School of Medicine and Pharmacy. Iuliu Barasch was an outstanding medic, philosopher, paedagogist and had an important role in modernizing Jewish community life in Bucharest.

In 1948, a year which marked a wider operation of renaming streets in Bucharest and the surrounding communes and urban settlements, more roads are dedicated to Jewish people who contributed to the country's political and cultural life.

In the Marmorosh Blank parcel area, known today as Primăverii neighborhood, the names of two important painters from the time of the 1848 Revolution are attributed to neighboring streets spanning between Teheran street and Primăverii boulevard: Barbu Iscovescu and Constantin Daniel Rosenthal.

A Romanian painter and revolutionary of Jewish descent, Barbu (Baruh, Iehuda) Iscovescu, born November 24<sup>th</sup> in Bucharest, studied in Vienna and Paris, participating actively in the preparation and development of the 1848 Revolution in Wallachia. Exiled in Zemun, next to Belgrade, Iscovescu met several Serbian revolutionaries and portrayed them, as well as Dimitrie Bolintineanu, who was also in exile. In 1849, he moved to Paris, where he executed copies of famous paintings and, at Nicolae Bălcescu's advice, copies of portraits of Romanian voivodes inspired from old engravings. He died 1854 in Constantinople, being laid to rest in the Greek Orthodox cemetery together with his fellow revolutionaries Ion Negulici and priest Atanasie Luzin.

Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, another famous painter and revolutionary of Jewish descent, born 1820 in Budapest in a family of merchants, graduated from the Academy of Arts in Vienna. He befriends Ion Negulici, Constantin A. Rosetti and other young revolutionaries. In 1842 he settles in Bucharest as an emissary of the Freemasonry, thanks to painter Ioan D. Negulici, in order to support the movement of national awakening which generated the 1848 Revolution. He was a member of C. A. Rosetti's secret movement (the Brotherhood) and joined him in exile after the Revolution was defeated, settling in Pest. Rosenthal studies and paints in London and Paris between 1845 and 1848, where he becomes a member of the Society of Romanian Students in Paris. He converts to Christianity in 1847 assuming the first name Constantin.

Rosenthal is arrested in Budapest while carrying revolutionary literature and dies on the night between the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 1851, having been tortured in prison, without ever betraying his fellows.

In the same year (1948), in the central area neighboring Lips cani street, the street name „Frânge Fier” is replaced with the name of one of the greatest Romanian figures in economic and social life, Jacques Menachem Elias, born 1844 in a family of Sephardi Jews. He was an important businessman (owner of sugar factories), banker (president and shareholder of the Romanian General Bank) and industrialist. He sponsored the reconstruction of the Sephardic Jewish Temple in Bucharest, which was however devastated and set on fire by the Legionnaires on January 21st, 1941. Through his will, drafted December 1914, he left his mobile and immobile wealth at home and abroad (estimated at 1 billion lei at the time) to the Romanian Academy. According to his wish, the Academy



founded a cultural and philanthropic foundation, the „Foundation of the Menachem H. Elias Family”, his wealth being used for “promoting Romanian culture, curing the illnesses of our poor, encouraging virtue and upholding noble causes”, without discrimination. The foundation was named after his father.

His gesture of great philanthropy was praised by his contemporaries, with Nicolae Iorga naming it a “powerful example of human generosity”. In 1993, Elias was posthumously elected an honorary member of the Romanian Academy.

On the grounds of the former Dudești-Cioplea commune, currently the third sector of Bucharest, the name Barbu Lăzăreanu is granted to a street neighboring Lt. Pascu Nicolae and Danubiu streets.

Barbu Lăzăreanu, born October 5th 1881 in Botoșani, was a Jewish-Romanian literary historian and publicist, a titular member of the Romanian Academy (1948) who was also a Communist militant. During the deportation of the Jews, he was saved by Queen Mother Helen of Romania. Barbu Lăzăreanu died January 19th 1957 in Bucharest.

Within the former commune of Băneasa, currently in the 1st sector, the Communist regime replaced the name of “King Ferdinand I” street, between Bucharest-Ploiești highway and Ion Ionescu de la Brad boulevard, with the name of Constantin Dobrogeanu-Gherea.

Constantin Dobrogeanu-Gherea, a Romanian writer and socialist activist of Jewish descent, was born May 21st 1855 in the village of Slavianka, Ekaterinoslav, in the Russian Empire (currently in Ukraine). His real name was Solomon Katz, while his Ukrainian name was Mikhaïl Nikitich Kass. He was an important member of the Romanian Social Democratic Party and a prodigious literary critic, known for his debates with Titu Maiorescu.

Leon Trotsky portrays Gherea as follows: „Among the ministers, diplomats and prefects in Romania, more than a few have learned their political ABC from Gherea. Luckily, they are not alone. Starting 1890, Gherea has led the first generation of Romanian Socialist workers toward the teachings of Marxism. Gherea and Rakovsky were the first who oriented their socialist parties toward the Russian Revolution, initiating a new kind of socialist party.” His fundamental work, a true *ars poetica* of literary critique, remains „Asupra Criticii” („On Critique”). Gherea dies May 7th 1920 in Bucharest.

In the year 1961, the name of the famous doctor Maximilian Popper (1948-1951) is attributed to Trinității street, situated in Dudești quarter, a neighborhood inhabited by numerous Jews.

After 1989, a number of Bucharest roads are granted names of cultural figures of Jewish origin.

One of these is situated between Moșilor road and Episcop Radu street. Formerly known as Argeș street, it bears since 1993 the name of Marcel Iancu. Marcel Iancu, a painter, architect and essayist born 1895 in Bucharest and later settled in Israel, studied the fine arts with Iosif Iser and graduates 1917 from the Zürich Academy of Architecture. Together with Tristan Tzara and Ion Vinea he publishes the journal “Simbol”. In Zürich, he frequents the art reunions at the Cabaret Voltaire, where he meets Hans Arp and, together with Tzara, participates in the initiation of the Dada movement. After a short stay in Paris (1921), he parts from Surrealism and Dada. Returning to Romania in 1922, he becomes one of the promoters of avant-garde art. Together with Ion Vinea, he joins the collective around „Contimporanul” journal (1924-1936) and takes part in art exhibitions together with sculptor Milița Petrașcu and painter Margareta Sterian. In the effervescent spirit of the time, he joins avant-garde groups such as „Arta nouă” (1929-1932) or „Criterion” (1933-1937), where we also find M.H. Maxy, Victor Brauner, Mattias Teusch, Corneliu Michăilescu. Together with Horia Creangă and Octav Doicescu, he publishes the manifest „Towards an architecture of Bucharest”, a true manifest for a modern capital city. In Romania and later in Ein Hod, Israel,

he paints countless works of art, as well as authoring works of architecture in both countries. He dies in Israel on the 21st of April 1984.

In the year 1994, a street cornering Camil Ressu boulevard is dedicated to Victor Brauner, a Surrealist painter and poet of Jewish descent, born in Romania. Born June 15th 1903 in Bucharest, Victor Brauner was the brother of folklorist Harry Brauner and brother-in-law of artist Lena Constante.

He attends the National School of Fine Arts in Bucharest and Horia Igiroșanu's private school of painting. He visits Fălticeni and Balcic, and starts painting landscapes in the manner of Paul Cézanne. Then, as he testifies himself, he goes through all the stages: "Dadaist, Abstractionist, Expressionist".

In 1930, he settles in Paris, where he meets Constantin Brâncuși, who instructs him in methods of art photography. In that same period he becomes a friend of the Romanian poet Barbu Fundoianu and meets Yves Tanguy, who would later introduce him to the circle of the Surrealists. He lives on Moulin Vert Street, in the same building as Alberto Giacometti and Tanguy. There, he paints "Self-portrait with enucleated eye", a premonitory theme.â

In 1933, André Breton opens Brauner's first personal exhibition in Paris, at the Pierre Gallery. The theme of the eye was omnipresent in Brauner's paintings: *Mr. K's power of concentration* and *The strange case of Mr. K* are paintings that Breton compared with Alfred Jarry's play *Ubu Roi*, "a huge, caricature-like satire of the bourgeoisie". Afterwards, Brauner takes part in numerous other Surrealist exhibitions.

After the Second World War, Brauner travels to Italy. In 1965, he creates an ensemble of object-paintings full of inventiveness, known as "*Mythologie*" and "*Fêtes des mythes*". The mythology of the modern world, where man is portrayed with humor, tenderness as well as pessimism, is clearly visible in his paintings of the time, including those painted in Varangerville and Athanor, where Brauner spends his late years.

In the year 1995, streets are dedicated both to Margareta Sterian and Mihail Sebastian.

The name Margareta Sterian is granted to a street stretching between Dacia boulevard and Alecu Russo street, formerly a part of Dimitrie Orbescu street.

Margareta Sterian, born March 16th 1897 in Buzău as Margareta Weinberg, was a painter, writer and translator of Jewish origin. She was married to a Pitești banker, and then later to poet Paul Sterian. She dies September 9th 1992, and since 1993 a foundation bearing her name promotes and rewards museographical and artistic creation.

Mihail Sebastian street is situated between Rahovei and Sării roads. Born October 18th 1907 in Brăila as Iosif Hechter, Mihail Sebastian was a novelist and playwright who studied Law and Philosophy in Bucharest and worked as a pleading attorney. Invited by Nae Ionescu, chairman of his Baccalaureate commission, to contribute to "Cuvântul" journal, he befriends Mircea Eliade. Antisemitic laws of 1940 forbid him to work as a lawyer and ban his plays. Amongst his better-known novels are "The City with Acacia" and "The Accident". Successful plays by Sebastian are "The Star without name", "The last hour", "Playing the holidays". The latter was adapted into a successful Romanian-French film (*Mona, l'étoile sans nom* - 1967) in which the leading role was played by Marina Vlady.

Mihail Sebastian dies in a road accident in 1945, only a short time after fascism had been driven out of Romania.

In the year 1996, at the proposal of the Jewish Federation, the name of Wilhelm Filderman is granted to former Agrașelor alley.

Wilhelm Filderman (November 14th 1882, Bucharest – 1963, Paris) was a Romanian politician and lawyer of Jewish descent who led the Jewish secular community between the end of the 1st World War and the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Filderman was president of the Federation of the Union of Jewish Communities in Romania (FUCE) and representative of the Jews in the Romanian Parliament. During high school, he befriended Ion Antonescu.

Filderman graduated from law school and received his doctoral degree in 1910 at the University of Paris – Sorbonne. During the First World War he fought as an officer in the Romanian army. He was a delegate in the Paris Peace Conference of 1918 and a deputy in the Romanian Parliament. He was temporarily deported to Transnistria by the Antonescu regime and fled to Western Europe in 1948, when Romania was under the Communists. He died 1963 in Paris.

In the year 2003, the name Iosif Sava is granted to a square situated between Brezoianu, Șipotul Fântânilor, Poiana Narciselor and Vasile Sion street, neighboring the Bucharest University of Music. A bust of Iosif Sava is also unveiled there.

Iosif Sava (Iosif Segal), b. February 15th 1933, Iași – d. August 18th, 1998, Bucharest – was a renowned Romanian musicologist, radio and TV host born to a Jewish family with a three century-long musical tradition. He studied at the Iași Conservatory (1944-1945), the George Enescu Academy of Music (1945-1947), the Arts Institute (1947-1949) and the Art High School (1949-1951), then at the Ciprian Porumbescu Conservatory in Bucharest (1962-1966). He also took courses at the Faculty of Philosophy between 1951 and 1955.

As a music critic and TV host, he produced the weekly show “TV Music Evening” (Serata muzicală TV), between 1980 and 1985, as well as after 1990. The show was a forum of discussion with important figures, orbiting around music, but including cultural policy and other contemporary issues. Over 40 books dedicated to the world’s musicians bear Iosif Sava’s signature, among which several, edited by Hasefer publishing house – „The harpists of King David”, „Musicians on the roof” and „Variations on a theme by Chagall” are encyclopedias of renowned Jewish musicians.

In the toponymy of Bucharest street names, we also find names reminding of the main occupation of ethnic Jews in Romania: commerce. One such street is Mămulari street (the archaic term „mămular” means a small trader). We also find names of famous people who supported the community in its most difficult periods, including the Second World War. One of these is Traian Popovici.

Through Decision no. 52 of March the 6th 2003, by demand of the Ministry of Culture, the General Council of the Municipality of Bucharest changed the name of Unității street to Dr. Traian Popovici, honoring the mayor of Cernăuți who saved nearly 20,000 Jews from deportation.

Traian Popovici, born on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, 1892 in Rușii Mănăstioarei village, belonging to the Duchy of Bukovine, Austria-Hungary – was a Romanian lawyer and mayor of the city of Cernăuți during the Second World War, known for saving Bukovine jews from being deported.

In 1989, Israel awarded lawyer dr. Traian Popovici the title, medal and certificate of *Hasid Umot HaOlam*, a distinction given to non-Jewish persons that carried out heroic acts, with the risk of losing their own lives, families and belongings, with the purpose of saving Jews from the Holocaust genocide. As a recognition to his brave attitude and his efforts to protect the Jews in Bukovine, in the Israeli city of Tel Aviv a monument was built in the memory of dr. Traian Popovici.

The same year, the memoirs of Traian Popovici were published in a book called “Spovedanii” (bilingual Romanian and English edition) at the initiative of dr. Wilhelm Filderman and with funds provided by the Ministry of Culture. The volume had a foreword written by acad. Prof. dr. Răzvan Theodorescu, the Romanian cultural minister.

Previous names of traffic arteries which are now renamed
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PERIOD	NAME	RENAMED AS
1889 – 1940	Dr. Beck/Radu Bek, dr.rabin	Vasile Adamachi
1948 – 1990	Olga Bancic	Alexandru Philippide
1948 - 1993	Max Wexler	Sică Alexandrescu
1948 - 1990	Lazar Grumberg	Alecu Mateevici
1948 - 1964	Baruch Berea (merchant)	Călinului
1948 – 1964	Andrei Berneth	Remetea
1949 - 1965	Haia Lifschitz	Washington
1975 – 1990	Miron Constantinescu	Sibiu

Between 1889 and 1940, a street in Unirii neighborhood, located near dr. Iuliu Barasch Street and Sfânta Vineri Street, bore the name of Dr. Beck/Radu Bek, dr. Rabin, and is at present called Vasile Adamachi. This is where the Great Synagogue lies.

Olga Bancic street, a traffic artery located between Aurel Vlaicu Street and Polonă Street, kept its name between 1948 and 1990, but was eventually renamed Alexandru Philippide.

Olga Bancic (Golda) (b. 10th of May 1912, in Chişinău, Gubernia Basarabia, within the Russian Empire, d. 10th of May 1944, Stuttgart, the Third Reich) was a Romanian and French communist activist, anti fascist fighter, a heroine of the French Resistance during the Nazi Germany occupation of France. In 1940, France was occupied by the German army. A member of the French Communist Party, she left her daughter Dolores in the care of a French family in order to protect her while she would be joining the resistance group *Francs-tireurs et partisans - Main-d'œuvre immigrée (FTP/MOI)*, located near Paris and led by Missak Manouchian, with the purpose to fight the Germans. Olga Bancic adopted the surname “Pirrette”. She assembled bombs and transported explosives used to sabotage German trains that carried troops and food. On November the 6th, 1943 she was arrested by the Gestapo. Although she had been tortured, she never revealed her accomplices. On the 21st of February, 1944 she was sentenced to death, along with another 22 of her comrades from the famous group “*Affiche Rouge*” (The Red Posters). The 22 comrades were in fact all men and were shot the same day. Because the laws of France prohibited the shooting of women, Olga was transferred by the Germans to a prison in Stuttgart, where she would stand trial again only to be sentenced to death for the second time. The interrogatories and the tortures continued even after her conviction. She was beheaded on her birthday, the 10th of May 1944, when she was only 32 years old.

In Bucharest, in 1995, after renaming Olga Bancic Street as Alexandru Philippide Street, the memorial plaque was removed from its original place. The commemorative (memorial) stones in Paris 3e, 19 rue au Maire and Valence built for the members of the Manouchian Group and Rue du Groupe-Manouchian, Paris 20e, still exist today.

Between 1948 and 1993 a street located in the second district, between Dumitru Marinescu and Ruşchiţa Street, bore the name of Max Wexler and is now called Sică Alexandrescu Street. The Romanian postmodern painter of Jewish descent, Max W. Arnold, born in the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1897 in Iaşi, was a student of the Belle-Arte School in Iaşi during 1913-1919, where Gheorghe Popovici and Octav Bancilă had been two of his teachers. He traveled to Germany between 1923-1924, to München and Dresda, because he wanted to study the German expressionists. During 1925-1927 he left for Italy. In Rome, he continued his studies at the Superior Institute of Arts where he met painters Sabin Popp and Lucian Grigorescu. Later he went on a new trip to Palestine, Egypt and Syria, exhibiting at Hasefer Gallery the works he made during his trips during the winter of 1927-1928. In 1928, he leaves for Paris, and then for Spain. In France, he was very prolific on the Breton coast, at Concarneau and Douarnenez, where he created artistic compositions of static nature with sea

fruits, prawns and lobsters. New exhibitions will be held in Paris in 1933 and in Bucharest, in 1934. He became renowned as a watercolor and oil painter after his visits to Balchik, and then to the French Bretagne, Belgium, Greece, England. His paintings approach a large variety of subjects, such as oriental landscapes, the scenery of Dobrogea (Romania), the Seine river, Hyde Park, Florence, nudes, portraits, static nature, interiors, streets etc. He dies on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July in Bucharest.

During 1948-1990, a street located between the streets Călin Ottoi and Sică Alexandrescu in the second district was called Lazar Grumberg – as of 1990 it was renamed *Alecu Mateevici*.

Lazăr Grünberg (1911-1944) was an activist for the Romanian youth and an anti fascist. Grünberg joined the Communist Youth League (CYL), in 1927. In 1935 he was arrested and received a sentence of nine years and ten months in jail. During the Second World War he was imprisoned in the Vapniarka camp (1942) and then in Râbnița jail in the Soviet-occupied Ukraine. He was killed by the Gestapo while imprisoned in 1944.

Between 1948 and 1964, the name of a traffic artery was Baruch Berea (glory to Berea/Merchant Berea). Now, its name is *Călinului Street*.

Andrei Bernath Street, which had this name during 1948 and 1964 was later renamed as *Remetea Street*.

Andrei Bernath (1908-1944) became in 1927 a member of Communist Youth League, and later became the secretary of the Central Committee of CYL. Since 1935 he was incarcerated in various prisons until his death, in 1944.

Between 1949 and 1965, the street that neighbors the building of the Romanian Government, known today as Washington Street, was called Haia Lifschitz.

Haia Lifșit or Lifschitz (1903 –1929) was born in Chișinău, Basarabia, in a family of ordinary clerks that were of Jewish descent. During high-school she joined the local communist organization. Later, Haia worked as a teacher, but nevertheless she was immediately arrested for her political options by the Romanian authorities when Basarabia became part of the Greater Romania in 1918. She emigrated to Belgium and then to Germany, but finally settled in Vienna, Austria. During the spring of 1926 she came back to Romania, but was rapidly caught and released due to lack of evidence. Her political activities eventually led her to several arrests in June 1929. In prison, she initiated a hunger strike along with other collaborators convicted in the same trial, requesting to be released according to a recently announced amnesty decree. This led to a deterioration of her health which resulted in her death on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August, 1929, only a few days before the amnesty decree would have entered into force.

Between 1975 and 1990, a street in the 6<sup>th</sup> district of Bucharest had been called Miron Constantinescu, but was later renamed as *Sibiu Street*.

Miron Constantinescu (Meir Kohn, 1917–1974), distinguished Romanian intellectual, was a member of the Romanian Communist Party since its early beginnings. He was the editor-in-chief of *Scântea*, the main newspaper during the communist regime, and held important leadership positions. He tried to overthrow communist leader Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej but did not succeed. He is rehabilitated by Nicolae Ceaușescu, who offers him the position of Education Minister, president of the Great National Assembly and rector of Political Academy “Ștefan Gheorghiu”.

#### Streets that no longer exist

PERIOD	NAME	RENAMED/DISCARDED
1880 – 1948	Fundătura Mozaică	Intrarea Pitagora

1911 – 1948	Col. Orero	Abraham Golfaden
1940 - 1964	Dr. Schachman	Colnicul Mic
1948 - 1964	S. I. Halfon	Măcin
1911 - 1930	Aleea Halfon	

The Mosaic Clogged Street (Fundătura Mozaică) was a street that existed between 1880 and 1948 and later became Pitagora Entrance (Intrarea Pitagora). Col. Orero, a street found between 1911 and 1948 was subsequently called Abraham Golfaden.

Abraham Goldfaden (b. 1840, Starokostiantîniv - d. 1908, New York) was a poet, dramatist, director and Jewish actor of Yiddish and Hebrew language, native of Ukraine, author of 40 theatre plays. He is considered to be the father of the modern Jewish theatre. In 1876 he founded in the city of Iași the first professional Yiddish language theatre in the world. Moreover, he is the author of the first Hebrew language play ever performed in the United States. The Avram Goldfaden Festival in Iași is held in his honour.

Between 1940 and 1964, there was a street that bore the name of dr. Schachman and was later renamed as *Colnicul Mic*. The street named S. I. Halfon during 1948-1964 was renamed *Măcin*. Both streets no longer exist today.

Solomon Halfon (b. 1790 - d. 1862) was a Romanian Jewish banker of Spanish rite, founder of Halfon Bank, friend of Hillel Manoah, one of the 1848 wallachian revolutionaries, who also had a position in the City Council of the capital city. Solomon Halfon, along with Barbu Iscovescu, Davicion Bally and many other jews took part in the 1848 Revolution in Wallachia.

Up to 1930, in the vicinity of Kiseleff Road there was an access alley that led to a group of mansions that was called Halfon Alley, but this name was eventually removed from Bucharest's street list.

Regarding the protection of cultural heritage and its integration into greater projects of durable development, Romania has yet to implement efficient, consequent measures according to international conventions and public interest represented by cultural and natural heritage. Toponymic heritage is part of cultural heritage, however it has not been the object of systematic, synchronic and diachronic study. As can be observed, the consequence is a rapidly progressing loss of heritage. What Romania has lacked after 1989 was a coherent approach by the responsible authorities, which would have required judiciary acknowledgement of the fact that cultural and natural heritage is a national priority, as well as the necessary financial support and consideration. Architectural and toponymic heritage must become part of the curriculum of all higher schools of public administration, so that they can be known, preserved and protected by future civil servants. This would help configure a local spiritual identity and preserve the particularities of the respective areas.

The present paper, regarding Bucharest streets named after people of Jewish origin, past and present, is a component of the interdisciplinary, comparative study of the toponymy of Bucharest streets. These streets, situated in old quarters of the city, with historic houses and gardens, bear the names of notable figures in the local Jewish community. They are a definitory component of European identity, which must be known to the public in order to increase the respective areas' appeal and promote durable development and social cohesion.

The toponymic heritage in Bucharest is proof of a natural cohabitation of Romanian and Jewish populations, thankfully without having been separated by the walls of a ghetto.

The Jewish toponymic heritage found in the capital city of Romania reveals a page of harmonious history shared by different ethnic groups, especially because during the past

century the Holocaust affected mainly the northern region of Transylvania that was occupied by the horthyst Hungary and caused the death of over 150.000 innocent jews. The Jewish toponymic heritage encompasses knowledge, respect and the preservation of real History as a memento that a metapolitical phenomenon like fascism should never be given the opportunity to repeat itself.

## STREETS NAMED AFTER FAMOUS AROMANIANS

*During the past 200-250 years, Bucharest was a safe haven for travellers arriving from the Near and Far East, from Russia, the Balkans, the Italian Peninsula or Western Europe. They all brought with them part of their birthplaces' culture, many of them thereby influencing Romanian culture through their spiritual baggage.*

*Aromanians are one of the most numerous groups to have settled in Bucharest. Coming from the Pindus Mountains, Macedonia or Albania, they are a population descending from the ancient Dacians and speakers of a dialect of the Romanian language. Due to their main occupation - raising sheep, continuously moving between pastures - they are found in all regions of Romania. "Romania is the only homeland of the Aromanians", said Professor Vasile Barba, leading member of the Aromanian diaspora in Freiburg. Belonging to this population are a number of historical figures in all fields of Romanian culture, many of whom are nowadays honoured with street names in the Romanian capital, Bucharest. Among these are writers (Ion Luca Caragiale, Mateiu Caragiale, Lucian Blaga, Octavian Goga, Ștefan Octavian Iosif), actors (Toma Caragiu, George Vraca), painters (Camil Ressu), historians (Nicolae Iorga, Alexandru D. Xenopol, Neagu Djuvara), Metropolitans (Andrei Șaguna, Nifon), doctors (Mina Minovici), philosophers (Constantin Noica), politicians (Ion Ghica, Eftimie Murgu, Apostol Mărgărit), Eugeniu Carada (founder of the Romanian National Bank) and other creators of Romanian history.*

*Keywords: Toponymic Heritage, Aromanians, historical figures, Bucharest streets, Romanian history.*

First attested more than 500 years ago and flourishing thanks to its position at the crossroads of trade routes between Asia and western Europe, the city of Bucharest is, and has always been, a hospitable place where people of all nationalities, related or not to the Romanians, have found shelter, temporarily or permanently. Amongst the settlers were Armenians and Turks, Jews and Germans, Russians and Bulgarians, Saxons, Swabians, Croatians or Serbs. Each of these ethnic groups brought to Bucharest its own traditions and customs, integrating them into daily life, learning the Romanian language and becoming part of the community living on these Danubian plains. This is where great herds of sheep and their shepherds would stop as they migrated between the Carpathian pastures and the territories of modern Greece. A population of Thracian origin would move north to south and, generations later, south to north, forming a bridge between cultures and languages in the entire Balkan Peninsula. The migration of the flocks would turn into a powerful bond between the populations in this part of Europe, sometimes even stronger than purely commercial ties.

Related to the Romanians in the Carpathians, both in what regards their customs and language-wise, the Aromanians found in Romania a place where they could prosper economically and culturally.

Their important contribution to the development of Romanian society was acknowledged through the attribution of great Aromanians' names to Bucharest streets, during the tumultuous 20th century, a time when the city grew and thrived despite going through two World Wars and countless radical political changes.

Nowadays, the index of Bucharest street names mentions a large number of famous Aromanians whose legacy was remarkable in all fields of human activity: physicians, writers, engineers, professors, prelates, actors, soldiers, politicians.

The following names were granted to Bucharest streets: Ștefan Mihăileanu (1859-1900) in 1903; Ion Luca Caragiale (1852-1912) in 1912; Leonte Anastasievici (1851-1914) in 1915; Eugeniu Carada (1836-1910) and Alexandru D. Xenopol (1847-1920) in 1920; Ștefan Octavian Iosif (1875-1913) in 1926; Eftimie Murgu (1805-1870) in 1929; Metropolitan Nifon (1797-1875) in 1933; Apostol Mărgărit (1834-1903) in 1935; Gheorghe Caranda (1884-1912) and Ilie Caragea cap. ( - 1916) in 1936; in 1941 Metropolitan Andrei Șaguna (1809-1873), Nicolae Minovici (1868-1941) in 1943; Nicolae Iorga (1871-1940) and Anghel Z. Cara ( - 1945) in 1948; Constantin Caracăș (1773-1828) in 1928; Lucian Blaga (1895-1961) and Toma Caragiu (1925-1977), George Vraca (1896-1964), Camil Ressu (1880-1962) and Octavian Goga (1881-1938) in 1990; Elena Caragiani (1887-1929) in 1991; Elie Carafoli (1901-1983) and Constantin Noica (1909-1987) in 1993; Nicolae G. Caramfil (1893-1978) in 1994; Mateiu Caragiale (1885-1936) in 1995. The Ghica family was attributed 3 street names: Doamna Ghica in 1930, Ghica Tei in 1936, Ion Ghica in 1914.

Ștefan Mihăileanu street is situated in the historic part of Bucharest and was known until 1903 as Liniștii (Tranquility) street. On this street, professor and publicist Ștefan Mihăileanu was assassinated in 1930, after having publicly expressed his political opinions regarding the cause of Aromanians.

The name of Ion Luca Caragiale was granted to former Rotarilor street in the year of the great playwright's death, 1912. Born 1852 near Ploiești, in a family of Aromanian origin, Ion Luca Caragiale was not only a playwright, but also an author of short stories, pamphlets and a highly regarded journalist. His contribution to the development of Romanian culture was honored by his post-mortem election as a member of the Romanian Academy.

As Bucharest flourished, new streets appeared, such as those in the vicinity of the Faculty of Medicine, which were named after great Romanian physicians. In the year 1915, one of these streets in today's Cotroceni quarter was named after Leonte Anastasievici, a famous surgeon and President of the Macedo-Romanian Society for Culture.

In the year 1920, Bucharest city counsellors decide to grant the name of Eugeniu Carada to the street hosting the National Bank, between Lipscani and Doamnei streets. Carada was a prominent economist who, together with Ion C. Brătianu, founded the



Romanian National Bank. Born 1836 in Craiova, of an Aromanian father, he studies in Paris and joins the 1848 Revolutionaries. He actively participates in the movement supporting the Union of Wallachia and Moldova, and after 1863 militates for the replacement of Alexandru Ioan Cuza with the German prince Carol of Hohenzollern. After Romania's declaration of independence in 1877, he is appointed to the National Bank.

The name of Ștefan Octavian Iosif was granted 1926 to former Bordeielor street in 2<sup>nd</sup> (Black) district of Bucharest. Born 1875 in Brașov and deceased 1913 in Bucharest, Ștefan Octavian Iosif, a great poet whose Aromanian origins are less known, was one of the founders of the Society of Romanian Writers in 1908.

The physician Constantin Caracăș had a remarkable contribution to Romanian medicine. Born 1773 in Vienna, into a family of Aromanians, he settled in Bucharest where, among others, he introduced vaccination techniques against smallpox. He also worked toward establishing the third hospital in Bucharest – Filantropia – and caring for the poor. In the year 1928, his name was granted to former Verde (Green) street in the vicinity of Filantropia hospital.

In the year 1929, Arhitecților (Architects') street is renamed after Eftimie Murgu, a leading lawyer, professor of philosophy and politician. Born 1805 in today's Caraș-Severin county, Murgu was one of the leading democratic revolutionaries of 1848, an adept of the Republic who fought to dismantle the feudal order and promote Romanian national unity.

After the First World War and the Greater Union, Bucharest grows significantly. Between newly built Regina Maria boulevard (parallel to Rahovei road) and the Filaret fields, on land formerly belonging to the Orthodox Metropolis of Bucharest, important urban development takes place, with streets being named after Orthodox prelates. In the year 1933, the most important of these new streets is named after Metropolitan Nifon. Born 1789 into an Aromanian family in Bucharest, Nifon Rusailă becomes Metropolitan of Ungrovlachia and, between 1865 and 1875, Metropolitan-Primate of Romanian. An active participant in the Union of Wallachia and Moldova, Nifon takes radical measures to modernize and emancipate the Romanian church.

In the year 1935, a street close to Mihai Bravu road is named after Apostol Mărgărit. Born 1836 in Greece, Mărgărit was a prominent leader of the Aromanian community within the Ottoman Empire. He worked toward establishing diplomatic ties between Romania and the Ottoman Empire, for the interest of the Aromanian population.

In the year 1936, a street close to Cotroceni military training field is named after Lieutenant Gheorghe Caranda of the Romanian Air Force. Born 1884 in Iași, he joins the aviation school in Cotroceni in 1911 and obtains his pilot's licence. His plane crashes during a demonstration flight in 1912, Caranda being the first Romanian aviator to lose his life in an accident.

In the same year, a street in former Dudești-Cioplea commune is granted the name of Corporal Ilie Caragea, fallen on the 1916 front whilst fighting for the reunification of Romania.

In the year 1941, the name of Metropolitan Andrei Șaguna is granted to a street in Bucureștii Noi quarter, situated between Fabrica de Căramidă street and Maramureșului (currently Ocna Mureș) street, formerly belonging to Grivița commune. Born 1808 in northern Hungary of Aromanian parents, Andrei Șaguna was first christened a Catholic, converting to Orthodoxy in 1826 and becoming a monk seven years later. He participates actively in the cultural life of Aromanians living in Transylvania, supports Romanian language teaching and becomes Orthodox Metropolitan of Transylvania in the year 1851.

The year 1868 marks the birth of one of the great physicians of Romania, Nicolae Minovici. Having studied in Berlin and Paris, Minovici founds the Romanian Rescue Society. He was the brother of professors Mina Minovici (founder of the Institute for Forensic Medicine) and Ștefan Minovici, a world renowned chemist and pharmacologist. 1916, during the First World War, Nicolae Minovici was appointed head of the service in charge of transporting the wounded. He later becomes a professor of forensic medicine, being named head of the Institute for Forensic Medicine. In the year 1934, he determines the authorities to found an emergency hospital. Between the years 1931 and 1936 he donates all his wealth to the Romanian Athenaeum, impoverished schoolchildren and Bucharest Commune. His name was granted 1943 to a street spanning between Băneasa Train Station and Menuetului street, as well as to a square in front of the building hosting Romania's first Ethnographic Museum (which he had donated to the state). The square is marked by a famous monument, Miorița Fountain.

In the year 1945, preparations start for a nationwide census of Romania's population and buildings. On this occasion, many repeating or inadequate street names were replaced. In the area between Romană square and former Mogoșoaiei road, Benito Mussolini street was renamed after Nicolae Iorga, a leading cultural figure of the late 19th and first half of the 20th century. Born 1871 in Botoșani, into a family of Aromanians emigrated from the Pindus region, Iorga specialized in philology and history. Returning from his studies abroad, he takes part in cultural and political life, becoming Prime Minister between 1931 and 1932. Outlawing the Fascist Legionnaire movement brought upon his assassination in the year 1940.

The name of Sergeant Major Anghel Z. Cara is granted 1948 to a street uniting 13 Septembrie road with Domnești Commune. Sergeant Cara, born 1915, loses his life in the year 1945 during the battles fought on the Western front, in Czechoslovakia.

For the whole of eastern Europe, the year 1989 brought important social and political changes, freeing a number of countries, including Romania, from the powerful influence of the former Soviet Union. This was reflected in the attribution of Bucharest street names.

The name of Lucian Blaga was granted 1990 to a street spanning between Dudești road and Unirii boulevard. The great poet and philosopher Lucian Blaga was born 1895 in

Lancrăm, into a family of priests with Aromanian roots. He studies in the Sibiu Faculty of Theology and later takes philosophy courses in Vienna. Blaga is well known for his poetry, prose, theatrical works and philosophical writings.

In the same year, Colonadelor street is renamed after Toma Caragiu. Born 1925 in Greece, the Aromanian Toma Caragiu drops out of Law school and is admitted to the Bucharest Conservatory for Music and Drama. After his 1948 debut in the Bucharest National Theater, he becomes a famous actor, playing countless roles both on stage and on screen. He loses his life during the March 4th 1977 earthquake, under the rubble of his apartment building on Colonadelor street.

The name of George Vraca is granted 1990 to former Alecu Constantinescu street. A successful actor of Aromanian origin, George Vraca (born 1896) studies in the Bucharest Conservatory and is well known for his theatrical roles, as well as starring in movies.

The name of famous painter Camil Ressu is granted to the boulevard spanning between Mihai Bravu road and Nicolae Grigorescu boulevard. Born 1880 in Galați, the Aromanian Camil Ressu studies in Bucharest, Iași and the Julian Academy in Paris. Returning to Romania, he begins teaching, becoming head of the Beautiful Arts Academy, later the “Nicolae Grigorescu” Institute for the Arts. His works are diverse, illustrating landscapes, still life, portraits and socially-themed compositions.

In the year 1991, the name of Elena Caragiani is granted to former Moeciu street, spanning between Pipera road and Ștefan Burileanu street. Born to a prominent Aromanian family who had settled in Romania during the late 19th century, she was one of the promoters of Romanian aviation during its early beginnings, having obtained her pilot’s licence in France.

Another marking figure of Romanian aviation, this time a specialist in the construction of aeroplanes, was the great engineer Elie Carafoli. Born 1901 in Greece, to an Aromanian family, he studies in Thessaloniki, then “Mănăstirea Dealu” High School and the Polytechnic Institute in Bucharest. He obtains a doctoral degree in Mathematics at the Sorbonne and founds the Faculty of Aeronautics in Bucharest. He was the designer of the IAR-12 aeroplane. In the year 1993, the name of Elie Carafoli is granted to a street in Domenii quarter, where many streets are named after famous figures of aviation.

In the same year (1993), the street spanning between Plevnei and Independenței roads, formerly known as General Anghelescu street and Ștefan Furtună street, is named after Constantin Noica. Born 1909 to a family of Aromanian origin, Constantin Noica was a renowned philosopher. Retiring to Păltiniș in the year 1975, his residence becomes a meeting place for his numerous disciples and admirers.

Born 1893 in Galați, engineer Nicolae Caramfil was another famous figure stemming from an Aromanian background. He studies the National School for Bridges and Roads in Bucharest, as well as the École de Génie Civil in Belgium. After the First World War, he has a substantial contribution to the planning and construction of Bucharest facilities. As head of

the Society for Gas and Electricity and the Bucharest Communal Works, he extends the city's public lighting, the gas supply network and regularizes the bed of the Colentina river, including the lakes in northern Bucharest. In his memory, the Școala Herăstrău street is renamed Nicolae Caramfil street.

Another member of the Aromanian community whose name was assigned to a street is Mateiu Caragiale. Son of Ion Luca Caragiale and Maria Constantinescu, Mateiu Caragiale was born 1885 in Bucharest. He was a novelist, a historian of heraldics and a poet. The name of Mateiu Caragiale was granted 1995 to a street bordering Cooperativei road.

This has been a short summary of street names reminding of famous figures of Aromanian origin. Last, but not least, we must mention that a number of boyar (noble) families, members of which ruled both over Wallachia and Moldova, had Aromanian roots. The best known of these is the Ghica family, which gave a number of voivodes, but also politicians, artists, men and women of culture. Three street names evoke the memory of the Ghica family, in connection with the grounds they owned in the Colentina river area, today's Tei quarter. This is where we can find Doamna Ghica (Lady Ghica) street, named so after Maria Văcărescu, wife of the ruler Gheorghe Bibescu. Closeby is Ghica Tei boulevard, named after the lands owned by the Ghicas in the area, including Ghica Palace, a monument of architecture built 1822 by ruler Grigore Dimitrie Ghica according to the plans laid out by architect Xavier Villacrosse.

Ion Ghica, born 1816 in Bucharest, is another member of the Ghica family who was granted a street name in Bucharest. An important cultural figure, diplomat, paedagogist, prime minister and member of the Academy, Ghica studied engineering and mathematics in Paris. He took part in the 1848 Revolution. Ion Ghica street is situated between Ion I.C. Brătianu boulevard and Doamnei street, in the central area of Bucharest, where the first institution of higher learning (St. Sava school) was established in Bucharest, and bears this name since 1914.

The presence of the Aromanian population in Romania's cultural life, especially that of the capital, is clearly reflected in the toponymical heritage of Bucharest. This fact is proven by the numerous streets named after famous people of Aromanian origin, an important element of Romanian cultural heritage.

## THE TOPONYMIC HERITAGE OF BUCHAREST

### STREETS BEARING THE NAME OF FAMOUS ROMANIAN DOCTORS

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*Over time, civil servants have granted street names aiming to bring back into public consciousness the historical landmarks of our evolution as a nation. One of the most important administrative acts has been the granting of the names of famous Romanian doctors to tens of public arteries. These doctors have represented promoters not only of science but of culture, they were connected with the society's aspirations and brought their contribution as doctors with a humanist perspective. The fact that over 40 streets bear the names of great doctors is, of course, an act of culture, a precious part of the toponymic heritage of Bucharest. Romanian identity consists in the value of this cultural baggage which can be assumed affectionately and which reflects an important part of the Romanian imaginary collective.*

*Keywords: toponymic heritage, Bucharest, Romanian doctors, streets.*

One of the more exclusive areas of Bucharest, Cotroceni quarter is nonetheless one of the oldest inhabited areas in the city. It was first mentioned during the time of Michael the Brave, more than four centuries ago, when it was still mostly covered by the dense Vlăsiei Forest. During that time, Bucharest stretched along the eastern bank of the Dâmbovița, with the western side being dotted with suburbs. In the year 1671, nobleman Șerban Cantacuzino obtains the lands including Cotroceni village and forest, west of the river. The residence was modified during the reign of Barbu Știrbei (1849-1853), with its central palace being rebuilt in 1852. Later, Cotroceni monastery would itself become a palace, as ordered by Carol I in the year 1888. Around the palace, houses were built to house those who worked within the palace, as well as high ranking military officials. Princess Maria and Prince Ferdinand moved into Cotroceni Palace in the year 1896. After the 1989 Revolution, Cotroceni Palace became the official residence of the President of Romania. Nowadays, "Protected area no. 45" (Cotroceni parcel) comprises a residencial quarter of high standards, typical for the early 20<sup>th</sup> century middle class, characterized through typological unity, architectural diversity, a homogenous ensemble of small villas surrounded by vegetation. It is an area acknowledged for its beauty, elegance and cultural value which must be preserved and cared for. As the residential area is situated around the Faculty of Medicine, it was deemed appropriate to name the streets in Cotroceni quarter after famous Romanian and foreign physicians.

We consider it necessary to refresh the memory of these important representatives of Romanian medicine through more detailed street signs, as well as to connect these biographical elements to a presentation of the places and homes they inhabited by printing illustrated guides of streets with cultural and historic significance. The fact that over 40 streets bear the names of great physicians, an act of culture, a precious part of the toponymic heritage of Bucharest. Romanian identity consists in the value of this cultural baggage which can be assumed affectionately and which reflects an important part of the Romanian imaginary collective.

Among the physicians who are honored with street names in Cotroceni quarter, as well as elsewhere in Bucharest, we name: Dr. Dumitru Bagdasar, G-ral Dr. A. Demosthen, Felicia Racoviță, Ana Davila, Dr. Iuliu Teodori, Dr. Zaharia Petrescu, Prof. Dr. Gh. Mănescu, Dr. Leonte A., Dr. Turnescu N., Dr. Radovici Ion, Carol Davila, Dr. Șt. Capșa, Boicescu Alex., Dr. Gr. Țăranu, Dr. Nanu Muscel, G-ral. Dr. Butoianu M., Dr. Clunet, Sfântul Elefterie, Dr. RK. Koch, Louis Pasteur, Intr. Pasteur, Doctor Lister, Dr. Mihail Obedenaru, Dr. Costache Negri, Intr. C. Negri, Dr. Staicovici, Dr. Teodorescu F., Dr. Iatropol, Dr. Ionescu Thoma, Dr. N. Manolescu, Dr. N. Vicol, Slt. Dr. M. Petrini, Dr. Grigore Romniceanu, Dr. D. Drăghicescu, Dr. Herescu P., Prof. Dr. Victor Babeș, Dr. Victor Poloni, Dr. M. Mirinescu, Dr. N. Tomescu, Dr. Eugen Iosif, Prof. Dr. Ogrecescu, Prof. Dr. Al. Vitzu, Cpt. Vijelie, Mihai Ciucă, Prof. Dr. Anibal Teohari, Dr. Constantin Severeanu, Prof. Dr. I. Atanasiu, Dr. I Ghiulamila.

A military doctor, Athanase Demosthen (1845-1925) was born in Brăila and studied in Bucharest, with Carol Davila himself as a professor, and in Montpellier, France. After 1881, he became a professor of physiology and, later, operative medicine and topographic anatomy at the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine, as well as general inspector for the Military Medical Service. He was dean of the Faculty of Medicine and a corresponding member of the French Academy of Medicine, the Paris Society for Surgery and the French Society for Military Medicine. After the year 1900 he initiated the first military sanitary maneuvers.<sup>5</sup> As well as founding in 1897 the first Romanian journal of military medicine He is renowned for works of military medicine such as “Antisepsis on the battlefield” (1890) or “Hernias in the army” (1894).<sup>6</sup>

Dr. Anastasievici Leonte (1851-1914), a renowned surgeon born in Giurgiu, obtained the title of Doctor of medicine in Bucharest. A former military surgeon, he took care of the wounded during the War of Independence and became a secondary hospital surgeon until, in 1884, he is granted the title of primary surgeon in Brâncovenesc hospital. Around the same

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<sup>5</sup>Rosetti, Dim. R., *Dicționarul Contimporanilor*, Editura lito-tipografiei „Populara”, București, 1897

<sup>6</sup>Dr. Trifu, V., *Generalul doctor Demosthene*, în „Universul literar”, anul XLV, nr. 24/1929

time, he is appointed to the Higher Medical Council. Throughout his life, he would represent the Ephory of Civilian Hospitals in many surgical conventions in France.<sup>7</sup>

Romanian medicine owes much to Mihail Petrini-Galați (1846-1926), the founder of modern Romanian dermatology. Born in Galați, he studies both in Romania and abroad, in France. Since the very beginning of his medical career, he works pro bono in the two main centers of dermato-venerology, Paris and Vienna. Starting 1881, he teaches histology in Bucharest and, in 1886, he organizes the first courses of dermatology and venereal diseases. Petrini-Galați is later appointed professor and head of the first Romanian department of dermatology and syphiligraphy, founding a specialized clinic within Colțea hospital.<sup>8</sup> The clinic would later be moved to Colentina hospital, where it exists to this day. Petrini-Galați was a member of the Society for the Prophylaxis of Tuberculosis, founding Filaret hospital (currently “Marius Nasta” Institute for Pneumophthysiology) together with dr. Ioan Cantacuzino.<sup>9</sup>

Dr. Grigore Romniceanu (1845-1915) is one of the leading specialists who worked and taught in “Grigore Alexandrescu” Children’s Hospital in Bucharest. Born in the capital, he receives a grant from the Romanian state to study in Paris, where he becomes a physician. He initially teaches in the Bucharest Officers’ School, then becomes a professor in the Faculty of Medicine. Starting 1875, he works as a primary physician in the Children’s Hospital. During the Independence War he volunteers in military hospitals. Romniceanu was a member of the Paris Society for Surgery, the Red Cross and the Romanian Academy, publishing numerous treatises.<sup>10</sup>

Born in Brașov into a family which would offer Bucharest its leading confectioners and owners of a famous café, Ștefan Capșa (1822-1885) studies in Vienna, where he is aided financially by a wealthy uncle. Returning to the country in 1847, he moves to the capital, where he works as a midwife.<sup>11</sup> He is considered the founder of the Romanian midwives’ school, being appointed head of the first obstetrics department in Carol Davila’s School of Surgery. Until his death in 1885, Capșa leads the obstetrics department in Filantropia maternity, being highly respected as an organizer of Romanian obstetrics teaching.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>*Rosetti, Dim. R., op. cit.*

<sup>8</sup>*Rosetti, Dim. R., op.cit.*

<sup>9</sup>*Prof. dr. Nicolae Marcu, „Petrini-Galați și dermatologia”, jurnalul.ro, 2006*

<sup>10</sup>*Rosetti, Dim. R., op.cit.*

<sup>11</sup>*Angelescu, Nicolae I., Grigore Capșa și familia sa, Monitorul Oficial și Imprimeriile Statului, 1940*

<sup>12</sup>*History of Filantropia Clinical Hospital for Obstetrics and Gynaecology, <http://www.spitalulfilantropia.ro/istoric-spitalul-filantropia.html>, accessed February 2014*

Dr. Dumitru Bagdasar (1893-1946) was a Romanian neurosurgeon who taught in the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine and founded the Romanian school of neurosurgery. Between 1922 and 1926 he specializes in neurology under Gheorghe Marinescu and Ion Noica, and in surgery under Dumitru Butoianu. Later, he would study in Boston, at Harvey Cushing's clinic between 1927 and 1929. He performs brain surgery in Jimbolia hospital (1929-1931) and Cernăuți (1931-1933). With the aid of professors such as Ion Iacobovici, Nicolae Minovici and Ion T. Niculescu, he founds in 1935 a small neurosurgery department within the Bucharest Hospital for Nervous Illnesses, which would become the Neurology Clinic of the Faculty of Medicine. Bagdasar had an intense scientific activity, contributing to fields such as spinal cordotomy, tumoral pathology of the spinal cord, cerebral tuberculomas etc. He was the founder of the Bucharest Institute of Endocrinology.<sup>13</sup>

Carol Davila (1828 – 1884) was a prestigious Romanian physician of Italian ancestry. Davila studied medicine at the University of Paris, graduating in February 1853. In March 1853, he arrived in Romania. He was the organizer of the military medical service for the Romanian Army and of the country's public health system. Davila, together with Nicolae Kretzulescu, inaugurated medical training in Romania in 1857, by founding the National School of Medicine and Pharmacy. It was he who had determined government authorities to issue the first official instructions concerning the health care of factory workers and the organisation of medical districts in the country. It was due to his many activities that several scientific associations appeared in Romania: the Medical Society (1857), the Red Cross Society (1876), the Natural Sciences Society (1876). With his assistance, two medical journals entered print: the Medical Register (1862) and the Medical Gazette (1865). During the Independence War (1877-1878) he was the head of the Army's sanitary service. Davila is also credited with the invention of the Davila tincture for the treatment of cholera, an opioid-based oral solution in use for symptomatic management of diarrhea. Today, the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, the largest of its kind in Romania, is named in his honor.<sup>14</sup>

Dr. Zaharia Petrescu (born April 25<sup>th</sup> 1841, Alexandria – now Kalipetrovo, Silistra, Bulgaria – d. December 16<sup>th</sup> 1901, Bucharest) was a Romanian physician, general, corresponding member of the Romanian Academy since 1885. He trained at Carol Davila's school of surgery at Mihai Vodă hospital, and then in the Paris Faculty of Medicine. He was

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<sup>13</sup>*Personalități românești ale științelor naturii și tehnicii* (Editura Științifică și enciclopedică, București, 1982)

<sup>14</sup>[Brătescu](#), *Gheorghe, Tinerețea lui Carol Davila editura Albatros, București, 1979*



passionate about the study of the chemical, physiological and pharmacological concepts involved in medical therapy, publishing a monumental four-volume work, *Treaty of therapeutics and materia medica*. By royal decree, the Medical Military Institute was founded in the year 1884, following German and Austrian models, with Petrescu as its manager. Due to his great merits, he was admitted to the Romanian Academy on the 18th of March 1885.<sup>15</sup>

Nicolae N. Turnescu, surgeon, served as the first dean of the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine, starting November 22nd, 1869. He was one of the pioneering users of chloroform and chloroethane as anaesthetics, founder of a surgical clinic together with fellow physician Constantin Dumitrescu-Severeanu.

Ion Nanu-Muscel (1862-1938) was a renowned professor of medical practice, a senator, a physician in Filantropia and Colțea hospitals and president of the Medical Society of Hospitals in Bucharest. He trained in Colțea hospital and later, between 1885 and 1889, in Paris. Starting in 1899, he works in Filantropia hospital. A good friend of surgeon Thoma Ionescu, brother of the politician Take Ionescu, Nanu-Muscel joins the Conservative Party and is elected to the office of senator. A wartime physician, in 1919 he became head of Colțea clinic, the country's leading medical institution, and retired therefrom in the year 1936.

General Mihail Butoianu becomes chief of the surgery department of the Central Military Hospital in the year 1914 and general sanitary inspector in 1928. For a short while before his death in 1935, he led the operative surgery department of the Faculty of Medicine in Iași.

Pierre Édouard Jean Clunet (January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1878, Paris – April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1917, Iași) was a French physician, member of the French Military Mission in Romania during the First World War, chief physician of the Hospital for Infectious Diseases in Bucharest, who died on duty while caring for Moldovan patients with typhus. He trained as a physician in Paris under Joseph Babinski and Pierre Marie, being appointed to the Faculty of Medicine in Nancy. Jean Clunet was the first to show that cancer appeared in rats upon prolonged exposure to X rays, as shown in G. Steinheil's thesis, *Recherches experimentales sur les tumeurs malignes* (Paris, 1910). Clunet became chief of the Hospital for Infectious Diseases in Bucharest, where, together with dr. Imbert, he published numerous articles, educating the population in what regards important aspects of diseases such as exanthematic typhus. During the war, when the Romanian authorities fled to Iași as Bucharest was occupied by the Central Powers, Clunet founded a campaign hospital in "Greierul" Villa in Bucium, now part of Iași, where he cared for typhus patients. Unfortunately, he fell victim to the same illness. Along with a street in Bucharest (Cotroceni neighborhood), Clunet's name now adorns the Bucium clinic of the Iași Hospital for Pneumophysiology.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>15</sup>"Farmacologia romaneasca, de la clasic la modern" discursul de receptie sustinut de acad. Victor Voicu, 20 febr.2006, *Academia Română*.

<sup>16</sup>Igna, N., *La mission médicale française en Roumanie : 1916-1918*, Impr. "Honterus", Sibiu, 1945

Robert Heinrich Herman Koch (11 December 1843 – 27 May 1910), the founder of modern bacteriology, is known for his role in identifying the specific causative agents of tuberculosis, cholera, and anthrax and for giving experimental support for the concept of infectious disease. In addition to his pioneering studies on these diseases, Koch created and improved significant laboratory technologies and techniques in the field of microbiology, and made a number of key discoveries pertaining to public health. His research led to the creation of Koch's postulates, a series of four generalized principles linking specific microorganisms to particular diseases which remain today the "gold standard" in medical microbiology. As a result of his groundbreaking research on tuberculosis, Koch received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1905.<sup>17</sup>

Louis Pasteur (December 27, 1822 – September 28, 1895) was a French chemist and microbiologist renowned for his discoveries of the principles of vaccination, microbial fermentation and pasteurization. He is remembered for his remarkable breakthroughs in the causes and preventions of diseases, and his discoveries have saved countless lives ever since. He reduced mortality from puerperal fever, and created the first vaccines for rabies and anthrax. His medical discoveries provided direct support for the germ theory of disease and its application in clinical medicine. He is best known to the general public for his invention of the technique of treating milk and wine to stop bacterial contamination, a process now called pasteurization. He is regarded as one of the three main founders of bacteriology, together with Ferdinand Cohn and Robert Koch, and is popularly known as the "father of microbiology". Pasteur also made significant discoveries in chemistry, most notably on the molecular basis for the asymmetry of certain crystals and racemization. He was the Director of the Pasteur Institute, established in 1887, till his death. Beverage contamination led Pasteur to the idea that micro-organisms infecting animals and humans cause disease. He proposed preventing the entry of micro-organisms into the human body, leading Joseph Lister to develop antiseptic methods in surgery.

Joseph Lister, (5 April 1827 – 10 February 1912), known as Sir Joseph Lister, between 1883 and 1897, was a British surgeon and a pioneer of antiseptic surgery. By applying Louis Pasteur's advances in microbiology, he promoted the idea of sterile surgery while working at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Lister successfully introduced carbolic acid (now known as phenol) to sterilise surgical instruments and to clean wounds, which led to a reduction in post-operative infections and made surgery safer for patients. He also developed a method of repairing kneecaps with metal wire and improved the technique of mastectomy.<sup>18</sup>

Mihail (Gheorghiad) Obedenaru (November 5th, 1839, Bucharest – July 8th, 1885, Athens) was a renowned physician, publicist and diplomat, appointed primary physician of the Children's Hospital in the year 1867. He obtains his doctoral degree with a thesis on

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<sup>17</sup>[Robert Koch Biography at the Nobel Foundation website](#)

<sup>18</sup><http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/cm/v14/n2/joseph-lister> *Joseph Lister: Father of Modern Surgery* by Ann Lamont, March 1, 1992

tracheostomy and begins teaching in the Faculty of Medicine in the year 1869. He reorganizes the Children's Hospital, creating a medical department and a surgical department, the latter of which would later be led by doctor G. Romniceanu.

Thoma Ionescu (September 13th, 1860, Ploiești – March 28th, 1926, Bucharest) was a Romanian surgeon and professor of anatomy, founder of the Romanian school of surgery and topographic anatomy. He studies medicine in Paris (1878-1885), as well as Law, working until 1890 as an intern in Parisian hospitals. In the year 1890 he presents his doctoral thesis on "The pelvic colon during intrauterine life", being highly appraised by the Paris Academy of Medicine and earning him a Silver Medal for surgery. Until 1895, he teaches anatomy at the Faculty of Medicine in Paris. He serves multiple terms as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Bucharest, where he teaches topographic anatomy and surgery, and Rector of the University of Bucharest. He published numerous works of anatomy and surgery, developed techniques and instruments, introducing various new procedures to his field, ranging from widened hysterectomies, cervical rachyanaesthesia, the resection of the cervical sympathetic nerve in the treatment of angina pectoris, radical treatments for hernias, methods used in splenectomy, nephropexy etc. His school of surgery played an important role in the shaping of the Romanian and international heritage of surgical techniques and knowledge. Nowadays, a bust of surgeon Thoma Ionescu adorns the prestigious Mayo Clinic in Rochester, US.<sup>19</sup>

On October 18th 1909, the Romanian society for urology was officially founded within Colțea Hospital by Professor Petre Herescu (1868-1915), who studied in Paris under Albarran and Guyon. Herescu led the first department for genitourinary diseases, while also being the first to teach urology at the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine. A gifted surgeon, he performed the first ileal cystoplasty after a complete cystectomy in 1910 and improved the technique for trans-bladder adenomectomy. In 1911 he became a professor at the newly founded department of urinary tract diseases. Starting 1913, the society founded by Herescu was known as the Genitourinary Society.

Dr. Nicolae Vicol was a general and military physician who specialized in balneotherapy and recuperatory medicine, also known as the founder of Romanian balneology. By royal decree, in the year 1922 he was appointed head of the newly founded Romanian Society for Medical Hidrology and Climatology. As well as the street named in his honor in Bucharest, a park bearing his name – as well as a bust dedicated to him – can be found in one of Romania's best known spa resorts, Băile Herculane.

Prof. Dr. Victor Babeș, (4 July 1854 – 19 October 1926) was a Romanian physician, biologist, and one of the earliest bacteriologists. He made early and significant contributions to the study of rabies, leprosy, diphtheria, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases. The Romanian universities Babeș-Bolyai in Cluj-Napoca and the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Timișoara bear his name. Born in Vienna (at the time, the capital of the Austrian

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<sup>19</sup> *Livre jubilaire publié à l'occasion de sa trentième année d'enseignement.: Thomas Jonnesco: sa vie, son oeuvre. Bucarest, imprimerie de la Cour Royale, F.Gobl fils, 1926.*

Empire) as the son of Vincențiu Babeș, an Romanian from the Banat region, he studied in Budapest, then in Vienna, where he received his doctorate in Science. Attracted by the discoveries of Louis Pasteur, he left for Paris, and worked first in Pasteur's laboratory, and then with Victor André Cornil. In 1885 he discovered a parasitic sporozoan of the ticks, named Babesia (of the family Babesiidae), and which causes a rare and severe disease called babesiosis. In the same year, he published the first treatise of bacteriology in the world, Bacteria and their role in the histopathology of infectious diseases, which he co-authored with Cornil. Babeș's scientific endeavours were wide-ranging. He was the first to demonstrate the presence of tuberculous bacilli in the urine of infected patients. He also discovered cellular inclusions in rabies-infected nerve cells. Of diagnostic value, they were to be named after him (Babeș-Negri bodies). Babeș was one of the founders of serum therapy, and was the first to introduce rabies vaccination to Romania. His work also had a strong influence upon veterinary medicine, especially concerning prophylaxis and serum medication. He became a professor of Pathology and Bacteriology at the Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest. He was also a member of the Romanian Academy (in 1893), of the Paris Académie Nationale de Médecine, and an officer of the French Légion d'honneur.

Dr. Mihail Mirinescu was a physician who led the Contagious Diseases Clinic of the first Romanian children's hospital, "Grigore Alexandrescu" Children's Emergency Hospital in Bucharest. Inaugurated May 11th 1886, the hospital was built according to an English model. Mirinescu would later be appointed chief of the Bucharest Serology Service.

Named after the famous professor and academician Dimitrie Brandza (October 10th 1846, Bivolul, Botoșani – August 3rd 1895, Slănic Moldova), a physician and botanist, the Botanical Garden in Bucharest is an important center of plant conservation, a center of scientific research and education as well as a center for environment studies. Founded in 1860 near the faculty of Pharmacy and Medicine, the garden occupies the territory at the left and right side of the Cotroceni highway.

In 1866 leadership of the Botanical Garden passed to Prof. dr. Dimitrie Grecescu (June 15th 1841, Cerneți, Mehedinți - October 2nd 1910, București), also a skilled physician and naturalist, who will publish the first complete catalogue of plants in the Garden's collection, only ten years after the founding of the public garden. The catalogue comprised 3.700 species of plants cultivated in open air and greenhouses. Aside from his activity in the Moscow Society of Naturalists and the French Botanical Society, Grecescu became a titular member of the Romanian Academy in the year 1907.

Mihai Ciucă (August 18th 1883, Săveni, județul Botoșani - February 20th 1969, Bucharest) was a renowned Romanian researcher and professor of bacteriology, infectious diseases and vaccines, and a member of the Romanian Academy. Between 1934 and 1962 he taught Bacteriology in the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine, being appointed subdirector of the "Cantacuzino" Institute. He became a member of the Romanian Academy in 1938, while also serving as Secretary General of the International Committee for Malaria alongside the League of Nations (1928-1938).

Born 1871 in Ciocănești, Dolj, into the wealthy family of Ahile and Aristia Teohari, Anibal Teohari was a renowned physician, a man of science and culture who studied in Paris between 1890 and 1901. He became a professor of internal pathology in the Iași and Bucharest Faculties of Medicine, after which he left the country once again to study biochemistry in Heidelberg University, under the famous Professor Kessel. Returning from Heidelberg in 1913, he worked in Filantropia Hospital and later in Brâncovenesc Hospital until his death in 1933. He strongly supported the founding of the Romanian Society for Medical Hidrology and Climatology in 1922 through the efforts of Nicolae Vicol. Teohari would, one year later, found the Bucharest Institute of Balneology within Brâncovenesc Hospital.

Ion Ghiulamila was the first Romanian orthopedic surgeon. After having specialized in Germany (1903-1905) under professors Gluck and Hoffa, Ghiulamila organizes an Orthopedics Institute in Bucharest and is named a conferentiary in the Medical Military Institute. During the First World War, while evacuated to Iași, he founds a prosthetics workshop and a mechano-therapy service for war amputees, which served as a model for later workshops in the field of prosthetics.

Constantin Dimitrescu-Severeanu (1840 - 1930) was a renowned surgeon, a student of Carol Davila's and later a professor at the Bucharest Faculty of Medicine. His greatest merit is the founding of the Romanian school of surgery in the latter half of the 19th century, an institution which was very modern for its time. Dimitrescu-Severeanu founded the "Medico-surgical gazette" in 1870 and contributed to "Progresul medical român" journal. He was among the first Romanian medics to introduce Listerian antisepsis, and began using X rays in surgery in the year 1897. His remarkable scientific activity leads him to international congresses in Berlin, Paris, Rome, Vienna, Moscow etc., where he presents numerous new surgical procedures. In 1869, at Colțea hospital, he founds the country's first workshop for medical instruments. After 1873, Dimitrescu-Severeanu executes 27 rachyanaesthesia procedures using cocaine, underlining the qualities as well as the flaws of this method. 1896, one year after Roentgen rays were discovered, Dimitrescu-Severeanu builds, together with assistant Eisenecher and mechanic Brohem, the first X ray machine in the country. Together with Thoma Ionescu, his close friend and coworker, and other masterful surgeons, he founds the Bucharest Surgery Society in 1898, acting as its first president. The institution would later become the Romanian Surgery Society. In the year 1929 he was appointed head of the Society for the History of Medicine.

The list of physicians whose names adorn streets in the Capital of Romania is even wealthier. Urban planners' gesture is a contribution to the unwritten history of what can be called the collective imagination of permanent or transient inhabitants of the city. Our synthesis, which aims to give birth to an exhaustive work on the subject, ought therefore remind the entire world that, as a historian wrote hundreds of years ago, "important people are born in Romania too."

## BUCHAREST STREETS NAMED AFTER LAWYERS

*Countless future civil servants, students of the National School for Political Science and Public Administration, walk down the same sidewalk, unknowing, failing to orient themselves towards studying the history of the very communities they will serve, oblivious to their obligation to protect and bring out their material and immaterial heritage. Architectural heritage must be known and preserved by future public agents, who thereby build local identity, helping respect and defend the specific flavor of every neighborhood. This also goes for toponymic heritage. As shown in the two Reports, issued in 2008 (“Romania has failed to take efficient measures in order to conform with the provisions of international conventions they have signed and with the factor of public interest represented by cultural and natural heritage”) and 2009 by the Presidential Committee for heritage buildings, historic and natural landmark, the situation is grim. Public authorities have not yet considered compiling an explanatory index of Bucharest street names. The city’s toponymic heritage is nevertheless of great historical and spiritual importance. The present article focuses on a single thematic segment: Bucharest streets dedicated to famous lawyers.*

*Keywords: toponymic inventory, lawyers, historical figures, Bucharest streets, students, civil servants, NSPSA*

Have we ever asked ourselves, as we walked down the streets of Bucharest, what secrets are hidden behind the plaques marking old crossroads? Have we ever stopped to look for a meaning, a picturesque memory of the old buildings, shady gardens where flowers used to bloom, now all forgotten... Bucharest, the city of gardens, with Mateiu Caragiale’s Cișmigiu park, “where sadness found such a strong echo within my heart that it felt like the place was part of my very self”, but also seductive gardens, full of romance, like Rașca or Oteteleşanu. Bucharest with its eclectic old houses, starting out in Neo-Romanian style, going through Art Nouveau, cubism, 20’s modernism, Art Deco and Bauhaus in utter freedom and harmony...

The sadness of a dying city – what a strong echo. I walk daily along Povernei street, past where Luchian used to live - the flower-loving painter who left us the famous canvas “Corner of Povernei street”. Oh, but how many crimes took place there, under the watchful eye of City Hall! How many real estate mafiosi were able to carelessly pollute the city, raising their awkward glass and concrete cubes right in the core of the old city!

Countless future civil servants, students of the National School for Political Science and Public Administration, walk down the same sidewalk, unknowing, failing to orient

themselves towards studying the history of the very communities they will serve, oblivious to their obligation to protect and bring out their material and immaterial heritage.

What if these students were to familiarize themselves with the instrument they call a “European cultural project”? Cultural projects are undertaken by important nations of the European Union; they are part of the dynamics of local development, making places more attractive, generating social cohesion and working as a factor of durable economic growth.

Architectural heritage must be known and preserved by future public agents, who thereby build local identity, helping respect and defend the specific flavor of every neighborhood. This also goes for toponymic heritage.

As shown in the two Reports, issued in 2008 (“Romania has failed to take efficient measures in order to conform with the provisions of international conventions they have signed and with the factor of public interest represented by cultural and natural heritage”) and 2009 by the Presidential Committee for heritage buildings, historic and natural landmark, the situation is grim.

“Natural and man-made landmarks of Romania are in a state of permanent aggression. Protection, conservation and enhancement are all at risk of becoming meaningless notions. Even though there are laws protecting these landmarks and heavy sanctions do exist against those who destroy our national heritage, even though several experts are doing their best, protection and conservation initiatives cannot keep up with the pace of destruction. How can this dramatic situation be improved? The answers are: education, communication, responsibility. However, these all take time, and time is currently the greatest enemy of our national heritage. Without quick, radical and unequivocal intervention, we will soon run out of sites to protect.”).

I must mention that public authorities have not yet considered compiling an explanatory index of Bucharest street names. The city’s toponymic heritage is nevertheless of great historical and spiritual importance. The present article focuses on a single thematic segment: Bucharest streets dedicated to famous lawyers.

One could separate the toponymic material geographically, according to city districts, but we believe it is more relevant to talk about practicing lawyers on one hand, and historical figures who were mostly active in other fields but have a background of legal training on the other.

#### A. Practicing legal professionals

This category includes the great Nicolae Rosetti-Bălănescu, Constantin Bosianu, Aristide Pascal and Emilian Pake-Protopopescu, the latter representing a connection to the other category, thanks to his important activity both in teaching and in civil service, being one of the greatest mayors Bucharest had at the end of the nineteenth century.

Nicolae Rosetti-Bălănescu Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, bears the name of the Romanian minister of foreign affairs and finance between the 29<sup>th</sup> of August 1863 and the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 1865.

Nicolae Rosetti-Bălănescu (1827-1884) elaborated, together with two other great lawyers – Alexandru Băicoianu and Constantin Hamangiu – the first Romanian treatise of civil law, consolidating Romanian doctrine and jurisprudence.

Constantin Bosianu Street, 4<sup>th</sup> district. Born on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 1815 in Bucharest, Constantin Bosianu was a honorary member of the Romanian Academy and the country's prime minister between the 26<sup>th</sup> of January and the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, 1865. He was the first dean of the Bucharest Faculty of Law.

Aristide Pascal Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, reminds us of the lawyer born in Bucharest in the year 1824. After studying in Paris and receiving his doctoral degree in Law, he became president of Ilfov County Tribunal, lawyer and professor of civil law at the Bucharest Faculty of Law, where he was active up to the year 1894. He kept the title of honorary professor and became dean in 1896. He served, alternately, as a deputy and a senator in all ruling bodies from the Union of Romania until his death.

#### B. Great figures in other fields, whose background included legal education

The second category refers to famous people whose legal education was a starting point for their activity in areas such as politics, administration, publishing or the arts.

Alexandru C. Constantinescu Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, is dedicated to the great statesman born 1859 in Bucharest. Receiving his doctoral degree in Law while studying in Paris, he became a prominent member of the National Liberal Party, serving as a deputy (from 1901) and later as a senator. He also served numerous terms as minister (of the Interior, of Agriculture, of Industry and Commerce). A close partner of the famous liberal Ion I. C. Brătianu, Alexandru C. Constantinescu, while not at all lacking in intelligence and spirit, remained in collective memory as an unscrupulous politician. During his time he was often jokingly referred to as "Alecule Constantinescu-Porcu" ("the pig"). Although loyal to the Liberal Party until the end of his life, he was in cordial relations with several of their political adversaries, such as Take Ionescu or Nicolae Filipescu.

Constantin G. Stere Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, bears the name of the great statesman, lawyer, scientist and writer born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1865 in Cîrpești, Soroca county. For 40 years he pursued a successful career in publishing, as founder (1906) and head of the "Viața românească" paper. He was the second President of the National Council (April to November 1918), playing an important role in the Union of Bessarabia with Romania. He died on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June 1936 in Bucov, Prahova county, and was elected post-mortem to the Romanian Academy in 2010.

The name of Corneliu Coposu was attributed not only to the Bucharest boulevard in the 3<sup>rd</sup> district, but also to streets of Zalău, Cluj, Timișoara, Oradea. Born in Bobota, Sălaj county, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1914, Corneliu Coposu led the National Christian-Democrat Peasants' Party between 1990 and 1995, serving as a senator in post-communist Romania. Under the communist regime he had been imprisoned for political reasons. In May 1995 he was granted the title of Officer of the Legion of Honor, the highest distinction awarded by the



French Republic to foreign citizens. His death in 1995 generated a wave of popular sympathy toward the anti-communist political forces in Romania, contributing to the victory of the Democratic Convention in the general elections of 1996.

Gheorghe Costaforu Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> district, refers to one of the founders of Romanian higher teaching. Born 1820 in Bucharest, obtaining his doctoral diploma from the Sorbonne and furthering his education in Austria and Saxony, he militates toward the construction of the Bucharest University in 1857. By decree of the ruler Alexandru Ioan Cuza, he becomes the first rector of the University of Bucharest in 1864. Between 1871 and 1873 he serves as Minister of Foreign Affairs, after which he is appointed diplomatic agent to Vienna. He was a member of the Liberal Party and is considered, together with Vasile Boerescu, one of the pioneers of penal law in Romania. He died on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1876 in Bucharest.

Grigore Gafencu Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, is named so in honor of the great statesman, diplomat and journalist born 1892 in Bucharest. Having completed his legal studies with a doctoral degree from the University of Bucharest, he founds the newspaper “Timpul familiei”, which is distributed to several countries in a special French-language edition. At the age of 32 he is elected deputy in the Romanian Parliament and works as vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs under the Maniu government of 1928. In 1938 he is appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and tries to preserve the country’s neutrality, caught between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. After northern Transylvania is annexed by Hungary following the Dictate of Vienna and Bessarabia, northern Bucovina and Herța are taken over by the Soviets in 1940, Gafencu is sent to Moscow as Ambassador. After King Carol II appoints Ion Gigurto to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gafencu leaves Romania for Switzerland, settling in Geneva. As visiting professor to the Universities of Yale and New York, he initiates the “European movement”, aiming toward the federalization of European states including Romania. He participates in the founding of the “Free Europe Committee” and organizes the New York “Tuesday panels” together with American politician and leading statesmen in exile from Communist countries. Grigore Gafencu dies on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 1957 in Paris.

Iancu Cavaler de Flondor Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> district, reminds us of the Romanian politician born 1865 in Storojineț, present-day Ukraine, then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Iancu Flondor militated toward the union of Bucovina with the Kingdom of Romania. Graduating from the University of Cernăuți, he obtains his doctoral degree in Law from the University of Vienna. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1918 he presides over the Constituting Assembly who votes for Bucovina joining Romania. Iancu Flondor is elected President of the Romanian National Council. The peace treaty with Austria, signed December 1919 at Saint-Germain-en-Laye (France) mentions that Austria renounces its claims over the former Duchy of Bucovina in favor of Romania. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1918, Iancu Flondor is appointed secretary of state in charge of the administration of Bucovina: he introduces the Romanian language into local teaching (Romanian schools are thereby founded in Cernăuți, Românești, Siret, Călinești), civil service, justice etc.; also, he employs clerks from among the local populace, insists on recovering deposits in Austrian banks, promotes Romanian press and the democratic development of public life and pleads in favor of the peasant class in matters of

agricultural reform. He was an avid fighter for the profound integration of all minorities residing within Great Romania. He passes away on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 1924 in Cernăuți.

Tache Ionescu Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, is named so after the renowned statesman (October 13<sup>th</sup> 1858, Ploiești, Romania – June 21<sup>st</sup> 1922, Rome, Italy) who served in several Romanian cabinets after obtaining his doctorate in Law in Paris. One of his colleagues there was Raymond Poincaré, future president of France. As an attorney in law, Tache Ionescu was famous for the eloquence of his speeches. His achievements during his first years in the conservative cabinet of Lascăr Catargiu propel him among the main figures of Romanian political life. In the year 1908 he founds the Conservative-Democratic Party, with great success, partly thanks to the support of famed author and playwright Ion Luca Caragiale. Tache Ionescu represents Romania in the Bucharest Peace Conference of 1913. Serving as Minister of Foreign Affairs between 1917 and 1918, as well as between 1920 and 1922, he supports the idea of joining the Entente forces during World War I. At the end of the war, Tache Ionescu presides over the National Committee during the Paris Peace Conference.

Mihail Kogălniceanu Boulevard, in the 5<sup>th</sup> district, is dedicated to the great liberal politician, lawyer and historian (1817-1891). He became Prime Minister in 1863 during the reign of Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza, and later minister of Foreign Affairs under Carol I. Earlier, as editor in chief of “Dacia Literară” and professor at the “Academia Mihăileană”, Kogălniceanu clashed with authorities due to his romantic-nationalist 1843 inaugural speech. He was the chief ideologist for the 1848 Revolution in Moldova, as author of the petition “Demands of the Moldovan National Party”. Following the Crimean War, prince Grigore Alexandru Ghica appointed him to elaborate a set of laws aiming to abolish Roma slavery. Together with Alecsandri, he edited the unionist journal “Steaua Dunării” and successfully promoted prince Cuza’s election to the throne. Kogălniceanu supported the elimination of boyar privileges and the secularization of monastery grounds. This ultimately led to the 1864 coup which Alexandru Ioan Cuza provoked in order to implement the controversial reforms. Later on Kogălniceanu also served as President of the Romanian Academy and emissary of Romania to France.

Iuliu Maniu Boulevard, 6<sup>th</sup> district, honors the Romanian politician born 1873 in Bădăcin, close to Șimleul Silvaniei. After completion of his legal studies in Cluj, Budapest and Vienna (where he received his doctoral degree in 1896) Maniu settles in Blaj where he works as a lawyer for the Romanian Church United with Rome. As a statesman, he is well known for serving multiple terms as Prime Minister, as well as for his activity as head of the National Peasants’ Party. After 1847 he was imprisoned for political reasons and died in Sighet prison on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 1953.

Eftimie Murgu Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, reminds of the lawyer, politician and professor of philosophy who served as a deputy in the Hungarian revolutionary parliament during the events of 1848. Born 1805 in Rudăria (Caraș-Severin), Eftimie Murgu completes his legal studies in Szeged and Pest. Alongside Romanian, he was fluent in Latin, Hungarian, German, Greek and Slavonic. As an opponent of Habsburg absolutism and an adept of the republican ideal, the Budapest lawyer fought for Romanian national unity and the disestablishment of

feudal relations. For voting against the Habsburgs, he is arrested and sentenced to death for high treason. The sentence is commuted to four years of imprisonment in Josefstadt, Bohemia. He dies 1870, five years after completing his final work, “Of the Serbian Congress Memorandum”.

Moise Nicoară Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, is dedicated to a lawyer, professor, poet and activist for Transylvanian-Romanian rights. He was born in Gyula, Hungary, and studied Law in Pest and Bratislava between 1802 and 1806. Later, in Vienna, he learns Turkish hoping to become a diplomatic emissary to the Ottoman Empire or to Wallachia or Moldova. He fails to join the regular Austrian army, so he leaves for Bucharest, where he teaches Latin and German in Caragea Vodă's school. In the year 1814 he moves to Istanbul, then once again to Vienna. He begins to militate toward the naming of a Romanian orthodox bishop in Arad, together with other prominent Romanians: Petru Maior, Aron Budai, Gheorghe Lazăr. 1838 is the year Moise Nicoară settles in Iași, where he completes the translation of the “Supplex Libellus Valachorum Transilvaniae”. He spends the final years of his life blind and impoverished.

Alexandru Papiu-Ilarian Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, bears the name of one of the prominent figures of the 1848 Revolution, a lawyer, historian, linguist and statesman. Born 1827, Papiu Ilarian takes part in the Blaj National Assemblies of April and May 1848, after which he leaves for Vienna, and later Padua, to study Law. Between 1855 and 1858 Papiu-Ilarian teaches law and statistics in the Iași Faculty of Law. He was a member of the Bucharest Bar Association and the Romanian Academy. Between 1863 and 1864 he serves as Minister of Justice in the Kogălniceanu cabinet, being the first Romanian minister from Transylvania. His name is connected to important reforms such as the secularization of monastery possession.

Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, is named after the lawyer, sociologist, economist and Communist politician born 1900 in Bacău. Together with Elek Koblos, he represented the Romanian Communist Party at the fourth congress of the Comintern in 1922. On his return, he was arrested and imprisoned in Jilava. Together with Emil Bodnăraș, he represents the Communists during their secret negotiations with the Liberals and Peasants' Party, with the aim of overthrowing the Ion Antonescu regime. He serves as a minister under the Sănătescu government after the 1944 coup d'État, representing Romania at the signing of the truce with the USSR and the 1947 Paris peace treaties. In 1946, at Cluj, he begins a speech with the words “Before being a Communist, I am a Romanian”. He is accused of bourgeois nationalism and arrested in 1948, then executed in 1954. By order of Nicolae Ceaușescu, he is rehabilitated post-mortem in the year 1968.

Constantin Titel Petrescu Street, 6<sup>th</sup> district, is dedicated to the interbellic politician who led the Social-Democratic Party and tried to avoid its fusion with the Communists. Born in Craiova, Constantin Titel Petrescu studied Law and Philosophy at the University of Bucharest and served as a secretary of state in the 1944 Sănătescu cabinet. After the Social-Democrats decide to fuse with the Communist Party in 1945, Constantin Titel Petrescu founds the Independent Social-Democratic Party. He is also head of the democratic newspaper Libertatea. He is arrested on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 1948 and imprisoned at Jilava and Sighet for seven years. He dies two years later, in 1957.

Gheorghe Pop de Băsești Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> district, reminds us of the Transylvanian Romanian politician who led the Romanian National Party of Transylvania between 1902 and 1918. Born 1835, he studied Law in Oradea and represented the Romanian bourgeoisie of Transylvania for 9 years in the Budapest Parliament. At the Sibiu conference of 1881, he proposed and achieved the union of all Romanian national parties in Hungarian territory under the Romanian National Party of Transylvania and Hungary. As a member of the “Memorandist” movement, he demands autonomy for Transylvania and additional rights for the Romanian population, hence he is sentenced to prison in 1894. He presides over the Alba Iulia National Assembly in 1918. After his death in 1919, Iuliu Maniu becomes head of the National Party.

Vasile Stroescu Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> district, bears the name of a great Bessarabian scholar, philanthropist and politician born 1845 in Trinca, Hotin county. He studies Law in Moscow, Petersburg and Berlin, whilst also nurturing an interest in history, literature and agricultural science. He founds churches and hospitals and becomes a honorific member of the Romanian Academy and honorary president of the Moldovan National Party (1917). Later on he serves as president of the Romanian Parliament (1919) and senator until his death in Bucharest in 1926.

Nicolae Titulescu Boulevard, 1<sup>st</sup> district, is named so in honor of the great Romanian diplomat and statesman, born March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1882 in Craiova to the family of a lawyer. He studies Law in Paris and returns to Romania in 1905 as a professor at the Iași University, moving to Bucharest in 1907. He becomes a deputy for Tache Ionescu’s Conservative-Democratic Party, after which he is appointed Minister of Finance in the Ion I. C. Brătianu cabinet. In the summer of 1918 he founds, together with Tache Ionescu, Octavian Goga, Traian Vuia and Constantin Mille, the National Romanian Committee in Paris, with the purpose of promoting the Romanian people’s right to national unity. The Committee was acknowledged by the Allied governments as a plenipotentiary organ of the Romanian nation. Between 1928 and 1936, Titulescu serves multiple terms as Minister of Foreign Affairs. As president of the League of Nations, based in Geneva, he fights revisionism, helps preserve frontiers established through peace treaties and promotes good relations between smaller and larger states with the aim of preventing aggression. His sympathy towards the European left wing, especially during the Spanish civil war, was poorly received by the Romanian political class. In 1936, under pressure from the Legionnaires and external factors, King Carol II removes him from public office and sends him into exile. Titulescu moves to Switzerland, then France, concentrating his efforts on preserving peace, in anticipation of the Second World War. He dies 1941 in Cannes.

Alexandru Dimitrie Xenopol Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, bears the name of a well-known historian, economist, paedagogist, sociologist and lawyer born in Iași on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 1847. After studying philosophy, law and history in his hometown, he obtains his doctoral degrees in Law (Berlin) and philosophy (Giessen). In 1893 he was elected a member of the Romanian Academy and becomes rector of the Iași University in 1898. Among other titles, he was an honorary member of the Brussels Society of Archeologists, the Academic Society of

Cernăuți, a member of the International Sociology Institute and the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences in Paris, as well as vicepresident of the Paris Society for Sociology.

Duiliu Zamfirescu Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, refers to a great Romanian writer, titular member and vicepresident of the Romanian Academy. Born 1858 in Plăinești (nowadays Dumbrăveni), Vrancea county, he completes his legal studies in Bucharest and serves as a magistrate in Hârșova and Târgoviște, then as an attorney and editor of “România liberă”. In 1885 he joins the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, becoming secretary of legation to Rome until 1906. Duiliu Zamfirescu also served as Minister of Foreign Affairs under Averescu (March-June 1920). His literary production includes numerous works of poetry, short prose and plays, however his greatest contribution to Romanian culture are the novels of the “Comăneșteni” cycle.

Mihail Sebastian Street, 5<sup>th</sup> district, is named after a Jewish-Romanian novelist and playwright born in Brăila, who studied Law and Philosophy in Bucharest and worked as a pleading attorney. Invited by Nae Ionescu to contribute to “Cuvântul” journal, he befriends Mircea Eliade. Antisemitic laws of 1940 forbid him to work as a lawyer and ban his plays. Amongst his better-known novels are “Orașul cu salcâmi” and “Accidentul”. Successful plays by Sebastian include “Steaua fără nume”, “Jocul de-a vacanța”, “Ultima oră”. He dies in a road accident in 1945, only a short time after fascism had been driven out of Romania.

Constantin Rădulescu-Motru Street, 4<sup>th</sup> sector, bears the name of a great philosopher born 1868 in Butoiești, Mehedinți county. He studies Law and Philosophy at the University of Bucharest, under such professors as Titu Maiorescu, Constantin Dumitrescu-Iași, Bogdan Petriceicu-Hașdeu, V. A. Urechia and Grigore Tocilescu. He obtains his doctoral degree in Philosophy in 1893 and founds “Studii filosofice” (Philosophical Studies) journal. Henri Bergson quoted Rădulescu-Motru’s doctoral thesis in his work “Introduction à la Métaphysique”. Later in his life, Constantin Rădulescu-Motru becomes manager of the National Theatre in Bucharest and president of the Romanian Academy.

Iacob Negruzzi Street, 1<sup>st</sup> district, is named so after a well-known writer, playwright, literary critic, lawyer and politician born December 1842 in Iași. After completing his studies in Germany, he works as a professor in the Iași Faculty of Law, as well as a member and later president of the Romanian Academy. As a founding member of the “Junimea” society, he is head of “Convorbiri literare” journal for 28 years. He dies January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1932.

## Conclusions

Whilst in America streets are commonly numbered, Europe customarily names all of its roadways, often commemorating prominent figures in the respective countries' cultural history. Europeans thus preserve their memories, given that, as late Academy member Florin Constantiniu stated, “national identity feeds also on historic remembrance”.

The traditions of old Europe are reflected in its toponymic heritage, a heritage that should be well known especially to students of Public Administration, future civil servants who are responsible of safeguarding the cultural heritage of towns and cities and of passing it on to

future generations. As underlined by Academician Sabina Ispas: „there is a model of Romanian culture, a specific style which can coexist well with others, only we have to distinguish its meaning from its form. We must preserve the meaning, not necessarily the form, the archetype. Of greater importance in my culture is the meaning behind the archetype.”

In order to respect our identity, public administration should be rebuilt from a multidisciplinary cultural perspective: the history of human settlements, their architecture, toponymic heritage, elements of the history of the arts; all can help widen the field of perception for those who study and practice Public Administration.

When abroad, be it in Europe or anywhere in the world, we search for vestiges of the past. In the meantime, in our own home, cultural heritage is decomposing irreversibly due to ignorance, negligence, abandonment, lack of funding or, many times, simply for getting in the way of lucrative real estate transactions. Manors, palaces, houses, churches, citadels disappear from the landscape, giving way to empty plots of land that are more welcoming to new, more profitable, development. Unfortunately, this can only mean the loss of our own history and identity.

"Little Paris", as Bucharest was known between the two world wars, has its fair share of streets christened in honor of the people who marked the Romanian history: artists, writers, historians, soldiers, doctors, lawyers. One of the best ways to discover Bucharest is to stroll along its boulevards and narrow meandering streets, which always eventually lead you to an opening of a romantic square. For today's students, the civil servants of tomorrow, this cultural window towards history will lead to a new approach on the past of all our towns and cities, in an attempt to rehabilitate it and save what can still be saved.

Upper-level administrative education often fails to approach the field of cultural heritage. In Romanian public administration schools, the curriculum does not comprise subject matters such as “cultural heritage law”, it fails to offer interdisciplinary perspectives towards the study of territorial cultural heritage. Little importance is offered to the “Regional Cultural Project” concept, applied for many years in Europe and often used at local administrative level to improve knowledge and preservation of cultural heritage.

## THE TOPONYMIC HERITAGE OF BUCHAREST:

### STREETS BEARING THE NAME OF FAMOUS ROMANIAN PAINTERS

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*Over time, civil servants have granted street names aiming to bring back into public consciousness the historical landmarks of our evolution as a nation. One of the most important administrative acts has been the granting of the names of famous Romanian painters to tens of public arteries. These painters belong to grand artistic movements spanning many creative epochs such as Classicism, Neoclassicism, Realism, Romanticism, Impressionism, Expressionism, Postexpressionism etc. The fact that over 30 streets bear the names of great painters is, of course, an act of culture, a precious part of the toponymic heritage of Bucharest. Romanian identity consists in the value of this cultural baggage which can be assumed affectionately and which reflects an important part of the Romanian imaginary collective.*

*Keywords: toponymic heritage, Bucharest, Romanian painters, streets, landmarks.*

Over time, civil servants have granted street names aiming to bring back into public consciousness the historical landmarks of our evolution as a nation. One of the most important administrative acts has been the granting of the names of famous Romanian painters to tens of public arteries. These painters belong to grand artistic movements spanning many creative epochs such as Classicism, Neoclassicism, Realism, Romanticism, Impressionism, Expressionism, Postexpressionism. Modernism, Postmodernism. Several street names belong to an important group of painters involved in the 1848 Revolution in the Romanian principalities: Carol Popp de Szathmary, Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, Constantin Lecca, Ion Negulici, Barbu Iscovescu etc. Their creation is connected to events and heroes of the Revolution. At the time, many artists worked towards the revolutionary ideal by creating propagandistic artworks in Romanticist style, including portraits of the Revolution's leading figures, turning historical characters into Romantic heroes: Portrait of Nicolae Golescu (1848) by C.D. Rosenthal (1820-1851), Portrait of Nicolae Bălcescu (1848-1849) by Ioan Negulici (1812-1851) or the Portrait lui Simion Balint (1848) by Barbu Iscovescu (1816-1854). Also, allegories of Revolutionary ideals were painted: România revoluționară (Revolutionary Romania, 1850) by C.D. Rosenthal and Deșteptarea României (Awakening of Romania, 1850) by Gheorghe Tattarescu. All these artists manifested through their art a nationalistic tendency, promoting the patriotic spirit through historic allegories.

Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, another famous painter and revolutionary of Jewish descent, born 1820 in Budapest in a family of merchants, graduated from the Academy of Arts in Vienna. He befriends Ion Negulici, Constantin A. Rosetti and other young revolutionaries. In 1842 he settles in Bucharest as an emissary of the Freemasonry, thanks to painter Ioan D. Negulici, in order to support the movement of national awakening which generated the 1848 Revolution. He was a member of C. A. Rosetti's secret movement (the

Brotherhood) and joined him in exile after the Revolution was defeated, settling in Pest. Rosenthal studies and paints in London and Paris between 1845 and 1848, where he becomes a member of the Society of Romanian Students in Paris. He converts to Christianity in 1847 assuming the first name Constantin.

Rosenthal is arrested in Budapest while carrying revolutionary literature and dies on the night between the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 1851, having been tortured in prison, without ever betraying his fellows.

Among his most famous works is “Revolutionary Romania” – with Maria Rosetti as a model, wearing a traditional Wallachian dress, the symbol of national identity and hope.

Constantin Lecca (b. August 4<sup>th</sup> 1807, Braşov - d. October 13<sup>th</sup> 1887, Bucharest) was a remarkable portraitist and religious painter. He was the first Romanian painter to approach church painting in a Western style, as well as author of numerous historical portraits and compositions and portraits of his famous contemporaries. For fifteen years, he worked together with Mişu Popp and Barbu Stănescu, painting the interiors of numerous Bucharest churches.

Ion Negulici was born in Câmpulung Muscel (1812) and died in Istanbul in April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1851. He studied in Bucharest at Ana Rosetti’s “School of decorative arts”, then in Iaşi with Niccolo Livaditti and later in Paris. Back in his homeland, he took part in the cultural campaigns of Ion Heliade-Rădulescu, publishing translations of Western works which he illustrated with engravings and reproductions of paintings. He wrote a novella, a theatrical play and a dictionary of neologisms. He was a member of the revolutionary society “the Brotherhood”, participating actively in the 1848 Revolution by printing revolutionary manifests and taking part in the organization of events. The Revolutionary government named him governor of Prahova county. After the Revolution was crushed, he was exiled to Bursa where he died of tuberculosis, being buried together with his close friend, painter Barbu Iscovescu.

A Romanian painter and revolutionary of Jewish descent, Barbu (Baruh, Iehuda) Iscovescu, born November 24<sup>th</sup> in Bucharest, studied in Vienna and Paris, participating actively in the preparation and development of the 1848 Revolution in Wallachia. Exiled in Zemun, next to Belgrade, Iscovescu met several Serbian revolutionaries and portrayed them, as well as Dimitrie Bolintineanu, who was also in exile. In 1849, he moved to Paris, where he executed copies of famous paintings and, at Nicolae Bălcescu’s advice, copies of portraits of Romanian voivodes inspired from old engravings. He died 1854 in Constantinople, being laid to rest in the Greek Orthodox cemetery together with his fellow revolutionaries Ion Negulici and priest Atanasie Luzin.

Among the founders of modern Romanian painting and precursors of Impressionism whose names adorn Bucharest streets today as an essential memory of their work, we must mention Theodor Aman, the great Nicolae Grigorescu, followed by Ion Andreescu and Ştefan Luchian.

A street in Bucharest has been granted to the well-known Romantic artist Theodor Aman (b. March 20<sup>th</sup> 1821, Câmpulung Muscel – d. August 19<sup>th</sup> 1891, Bucharest), whose work is one of Academicist rigor, with historic scenes enriched by social and political ideals of the period the Romanian national state was founded, as well as echoes of his Parisian studies, giving him a great interest for detail and movement.



Nicolae Grigorescu (b. May 15<sup>th</sup> 1838, Pitaru, Dâmbovița county, d. July 21<sup>st</sup> 1907, Câmpina) is one of the founders of Romanian painting, author of grand historical frescoes and a student of the Barbizon school. At the “Universal Exhibition” of 1867, he participates with seven works. Starting with the year 1870, he takes part in exhibitions organized by the “Friends of the Fine Arts” Society. Between 1873 and 1874 he travels to Italy (Rome, Naples, Pompeii), Greece and Vienna. In 1877, he joins the Romanian army as a “frontline painter”, sketching the battles of Grivița and Rahova as they took place, as base material for his larger compositions. Between 1879 and 1890 he works mainly in France, especially in Vitré (Brittany) and Paris. Returning to his homeland and settling in Câmpina, he opens a number of personal exhibitions at the Romanian Atheneum between 1891 and 1904. Later in life, he dedicates himself to rustic subjects, painting portraits of peasant girls, ox carts on dusty country roads and numerous specific Romanian landscapes. In the year 1899 he is appointed an honorary member of the Romanian Academy.

Ion Andreescu, (1850-1882) an Impressionist painter who studied in Paris, at the Julian Academy, left behind many wonderful landscapes, portraits and still life paintings marked by sensitivity and chromatic subtleness. “Among Romanian painters, few are as attractive as Andreescu, whose destiny was so full of meaning. In fact, he gave a definite orientation to Romanian art” (Jacques Lassaigue).

Ștefan Luchian (b. February 1<sup>st</sup> 1868, Ștefănești, Botoșani – d. June 28<sup>th</sup> 1916, Bucharest), known as “the poet of flowers”, graduates from the National School of Fine Arts in 1889 and leaves to Munich, where he studies at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, and later to Paris, at the Julian Academy, where he is influenced by the Impressionists. Aside from oil painting, he creates many landscapes and still life paintings using pastels, which he masters to a degree unknown before him. The fluidity of his contours, the velvet gentleness of flowers’ petals have earned him a place in the history of Romanian arts. The intensity of feelings shown in his paintings of flowers reveals an inner light, a sober simplicity which makes many of them – we must only recall his *Wind flowers* - true masterpieces.

Among the great modern painters who were honored with street names by Bucharest City Hall, we can mention Cecilia Cuțescu Storck, a monumentalist, author –among others- of the greatest fresco in Romania, “The History of Romanian Commerce” (1933) in the Aula Magna of the Academy for Economic Studies, covering over 100 square meters. The work presents over a hundred characters, illustrating – over six successive registers – the history of Romanian trade.

Ion Țuculescu (born May 19, 1910, Craiova - died July 27, 1962, Bucharest) was a military doctor who has divided his time between scientific research and artistic activity. His paintings stand out through their exceptional chromatic force. It was said of him that he is a “late Expressionist, an Impressionist ab origine”.

A number of the 20th century artists whose names currently adorn Bucharest streets can be identified as Surrealists.

In the year 1994, a street cornering Camil Răssu boulevard is dedicated to Victor Brauner, a Surrealist painter and poet of Jewish descent, born in Romania. Born June 15<sup>th</sup> 1903 in Bucharest, Victor Brauner was the brother of folklorist Harry Brauner and brother-in-law of artist Lena Constante. He attends the National School of Fine Arts in Bucharest and Horia Igrișanu's private school of painting. He visits Fălticeni and Balcic, and starts painting

landscapes in the manner of Paul Cézanne. Then, as he testifies himself, he goes through all the stages: "Dadaist, Abstractionist, Expressionist". In 1930, he settles in Paris, where he meets Constantin Brâncuși, who instructs him in methods of art photography. In that same period he becomes a friend of the Romanian poet Barbu Fundoianu and meets Yves Tanguy, who would later introduce him to the circle of the Surrealists. He lives on Moulin Vert Street, in the same building as Alberto Giacometti and Tanguy. There, he paints "Self-portrait with enucleated eye", a premonitory theme. In 1933, André Breton opens Brauner's first personal exhibition in Paris, at the Pierre Gallery. The theme of the eye was omnipresent in Brauner's paintings: *Mr. K's power of concentration* and *The strange case of Mr. K* are paintings that Breton compared with Alfred Jarry's play *Ubu Roi*, "a huge, caricature-like satire of the bourgeoisie". Afterwards, Brauner takes part in numerous other Surrealist exhibitions.

After the Second World War, Brauner travels to Italy. In 1965, he creates an ensemble of object-paintings full of inventiveness, known as "*Mythologie*" and "*Fêtes des mythes*". The mythology of the modern world, where man is portrayed with humor, tenderness as well as pessimism, is clearly visible in his paintings of the time, including those painted in Varangéville and Athanor, where Brauner spends his late years.

Margareta Sterian, born March 16th 1897 in Buzău as Margareta Weinberg, was a painter, writer and translator of Jewish origin. She was married to a Pitești banker, and then later to poet Paul Sterian. She dies September 9th 1992, and since 1993 a foundation bearing her name promotes and rewards museographical and artistic creation.

Dan Grigorescu spoke about the "transparency and color that allows some critics to compare her works to paintings by Chagall and Dufy(...) In the paintings of Margareta Sterian(...)we find the memory of an original world, kept intact, with genuine sincerity and the erudition of a sensitive spirit. A world called poetry."

Between 1948 and 1993 a street located in the second district, between Dumitru Marinescu and Rușchița Street, bore the name of Max Wexler and is now called Sică Alexandrescu Street. The Romanian postmodern painter of Jewish descent, Max W. Arnold, born in the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1897 in Iași, was a student of the Belle-Arte School in Iași during 1913-1919, where Gheorghe Popovici and Octav Bancilă had been two of his teachers. He traveled to Germany between 1923-1924, to München and Dresda, because he wanted to study the German expressionists. During 1925-1927 he left for Italy. In Rome, he continued his studies at the Superior Institute of Arts where he met painters Sabin Popp and Lucian Grigorescu. Later he went on a new trip to Palestine, Egypt and Syria, exhibiting at Hasefer Gallery the works he made during his trips during the winter of 1927-1928. In 1928, he leaves for Paris, and then for Spain. In France, he was very prolific on the Breton coast, at Concarneau and Douarnenez, where he created artistic compositions of static nature with sea fruits, prawns and lobsters. New exhibitions will be held in Paris in 1933 and in Bucharest, in 1934. He became renowned as a watercolor and oil painter after his visits to Balchik, and then to the French Bretagne, Belgium, Greece, England. Although Max Arnold admired him, Paul Cézanne had little influence on his works, as opposed to the greater influence of Henri Matisse, Raoul Dufy and Albert Marquet. His paintings approach a large variety of subjects, such as oriental landscapes, the scenery of Dobrogea (Romania), the Seine river, Hyde Park, Florence, nudes, portraits, static nature, interiors, streets etc. He dies on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July in Bucharest.

Ștefan Dimitrescu (b. January 18th 1886 – d. May 22nd 1933) was a Romanian Realist painter who studied in the Iași school of fine arts and later in Paris. In the year 1918

he was one of the co-founders of the “Arta Română” association. Together with Nicolae Tonitza, Francisc Șirato and Oscar Han, he founded in 1936 the “Group of four”. Starting 1927 Dimitrescu is a professor at the Iași school of fine arts. His work consists mainly of compositions, portraits and landscapes. It shows authentic scenes with sincere emotion, sometimes with restrained dramaticism – including scenes from country life and from the life of miners, highly critical towards contemporary society.

Nicolae Tonitza (b. April 13th 1886, Bârlad - d. February 26th 1940, Bucharest) studied in Iași, Munich and Paris and was influenced by Impressionism, Post-Impressionism and the Belle Époque style. He paints landscapes, his views of Balcic being renowned, as well as portraits, figures of children and larger ensembles. “Tonitza’s eyes”, the eyes of the children in his paintings, are very well known.

Iosif Iser (b. May 21<sup>st</sup> 1881, Bucharest - d. April 25<sup>th</sup> 1958, Bucharest) was a Romanian painter and graphic artist of Jewish origin, a member of the Romanian Academy. He studied in Munich and Paris and was influenced by the Expressionist movement, using thick contours and sharp angles in his paintings, dominated chromatically by earthen tones.

The name of the great painter Theodor Pallady has been granted to a Bucharest boulevard. Born 1871 and deceased in 1965, Theodor Pallady studied engineering at the Dresden polytechnic institute (1887-1889) while taking drawing and painting classes from Erwin Oehme, who, acknowledging his artistic gift, advises him to move to Paris. In France, he works in the studio of Jean Arman and joins the Academy of Fine Arts. 1892, he starts an apprenticeship with Gustave Moreau, where he meets and closely befriends Henri Matisse as well as Georges Rouault and Albert Marquet. His complex artistic persona was born from the rigor of the German school and Moreau’s symbolism, while evoking Art Nouveau experimentation and influences from his friends, who would found Fauvism. His friendship with Matisse and his connections to the French spirit explain the numerous bonds that tie him to what would be called the Paris School. However, Pallady remains an adept of classical composition, marked by post-Impressionist lyricism.

Gheorghe Petrașcu (Gheorghe Petrovici, b. November 20<sup>th</sup> 1872), Romanian painter and academician, the founder of an art movement characterized by grave, concentrated coloring and by the force of evoking objects and sights in their immediate environment. He studies at the Bucharest University of Arts, and later in Munich and Paris, at the Julian Academy in Bouguereau’s workshop (1899-1902). He paints landscapes of Romania, France (Vitré, Saint-Malo), Spain (St. Martin Bridge in Toledo) and especially Italy (Venice, Chioggia, Naples). In his landscapes, light reinforces contours instead of diminishing them, as is the case in Impressionist painting. Straight lines give Petrașcu’s architectural details the impression of solidity. From this point of view, Petrașcu’s Venetian landscapes prove his anti-conformism.

Rudolf Schweitzer-Cumpăna (b. 7 mai 1886, Pitești - d. 17 februarie 1975, București) was a Romanian graphic artist and painter of German origin, who studied in Berlin and Paris. Gifted with a powerful sense of observation, Schweitzer-Cumpăna painted portraits, landscapes and especially scenes of country life in various techniques (oil, watercolor and charcoal) in the Realist manner.” (*Dicționar Enciclopedic Român*, Ed. Politică, București, 1962-1964).

We consider it necessary to refresh the memory of these important representatives of Romanian art through more detailed street signs, as well as connecting these biographical elements to a presentation of the places and homes they inhabited by printing illustrated guides of streets with cultural and historic significance. The fact that over 30 streets bear the names of great painters is, of course, an act of culture, a precious part of the toponymic heritage of Bucharest. Romanian identity consists in the value of this cultural baggage which can be assumed affectionately and which reflects an important part of the Romanian imaginary collective.

The list of painters whose names adorn streets in the Capital of Romania is even wealthier. Urban planners' gesture is a contribution to the unwritten history of what can be called the collective imagination of permanent or transient inhabitants of the city. Our synthesis, which aims to give birth to an exhaustive work on the subject, ought therefore remind the entire world that, as a historian wrote hundreds of years ago, "important people are born in Romania too."

#### THE TOPONYMIC HERITAGE OF BUCHAREST. HAGIONYMS – AN ADMINISTRATIVE ACT WITH SPIRITUAL CONNOTATIONS

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"Patriarch Justinian"

*Today's city developed around the prince's residence as well as around churches and monasteries. These places were the first administrative nuclei, especially since the Church had been, in the days before the first Civil Code, the keeper of most administrative functions, including indexes of dwellings, persons, births, marriages and deaths. Bucharest's toponymic heritage, an expression of the city's identity, must be preserved, being a mark of the history of each administrative division. This means it is necessary to compile an explanatory atlas of Bucharest streets, which must be well known by the local administration. The present study focuses on a thematic segment: streets bearing names of saints (hagionyms). Given that the number of streets bearing hagionyms is considerable, we shall divide the list into following categories: streets named after churches built before the 20th century, streets bearing religious names attributed to them in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and streets named after important figures of religious life. This classification centers on the public factors which determined the attribution of the respective names. We shall draw out a phenomenological analysis of the concept of public administration from a historic perspective, mentioning correlative political, artistic, religious and sociological aspects.*

*Keywords: hagionyms, churches, monasteries, names of saints, Bucharest.*

The toponymic heritage of Bucharest, an expression of spiritual identity, must be protected in order to ensure knowledge about the specificities of each administrative division within the city, their means of organization and the manner in which these specificities influenced territorial partition.

Rediscovering the significance of Bucharest street names, their history and spiritual wealth, is the main issue which brings about the need for an explanatory atlas as an aid for the public administration. Toponymic heritage should be known and promoted by those engaged in local administration, helping protect the nuclei around which city life evolved and performing analyses of future development. Aside from that, the succession of Bucharest street names is an interesting object of study for historians and for the general public.

If at first the city had developed around the princely court, later on it would expand mostly around churches and monasteries. These were the first administrative nuclei, especially given that, prior to the first Romanian Civil Code, the Church was in charge of most administrative functions, keeping records of buildings, inhabitants, births, marriages and deaths. The history of Bucharest is therefore tightly connected to the history of its churches. One cannot imagine the history of the city without its churches, many neighborhoods having formed around places of worship and being named after them. Along with the rest of the city, places of worship have seen flooding, earthquakes, epidemics, foreign occupation and demolition.

The present study focuses on a thematic segment: Bucharest streets bearing names tightly connected to religious life. The list of such streets is quite vast, therefore we shall divide it into three categories: streets named after places of worship, streets bearing religious names and streets bearing the names of important religious figures. This classification can be further expanded according to the administrative organization of each historical period and decision factors from within the local administration who gave the streets their names.

In discussing the abovementioned thematic segment, we shall start with those streets bearing names of saints (hagionyms). These names are connected to the consecration of specific churches, some of which have disappeared, others still in existence on or near the respective streets, despite historical hardships such as earthquakes, fires and demolition. We shall sketch a phenomenological analysis of the concept of public administration from a historical perspective, mentioning related political, artistic, religious and sociological aspects, all while selectively listing several important hagionyms related to the best known Bucharest churches.

Some names are still in place, keeping their form since the apparition of the roads they are assigned to, mainly names pertaining to local history or points of interest. Because in Romanian settlements the church represented a nucleus for the development of the community, within nearly every neighborhood there is at least a street bearing the name of a place of worship.

Sfântul Constantin (Saint Constantine) church, built mid-18th century in the immediate vicinity of Podul de Pământ (currently Plevnei road), gave its name to the street connecting Plevnei road to Cișmigiu park. Only between 1987 and 1991 was its name changed to Călimănești. A historical monument, the church itself is part of the 1st Prothiery and is located at no. 33, Sf. Constantin street. As can be read on the consecratory inscription, written in Cyrillic script above the main entrance portal, the place of worship was erected 1785 by members of local guilds, probably on the site of an older church: „in the days of Prince Mihail Șuțu Vvd., during the Metropolitanate of his Holiness kir Grigorie, september 1785”. The church was renovated 1861, 1880 and 1919. It is a small church, 19.5 x 7-9 meters in dimension, with very thick walls, polygonal apses and an octagonal spire, covered in metal plating, situated on the nave. Mural frescoes cover a surface of 750 square meters. Within the church, its founders, Constantin Beșleagă and his wife, are shown together with one of their children. Paintings were executed after 1918 by Costin Petrescu, 1960 by Grigore Stoenescu and restored by a team led by Claudiu Moldoveanu between 1995-97.

Close to Unirii square, Sfânta Vineri- Hereasca church (demolished 1987) was renowned for its icon of Saint Parascheva, commonly known as Sfânta Vineri (Good Friday),

given to the church by the Năsturel family. Currently, Sfânta Vineri square evokes the memory of the church. It has been suggested that, between the 13th and 14th centuries, the site was home to a church dedicated to Saint Parascheva, where the relics of two Romanian saints from the South of the Danube were brought during the reign of Mircea the Elder (1368-1408) after the demise of the Turnovo Patriarchy: Saint Parascheva and Saint Filofteia. A church was built here in the age of Matei Basarab (1632-1654), in the year 1645 by Niță, former great aga, the entire area being known as the mahala (suburb) of Aga Niță or “Aganiță”. Sfânta Vineri church, attested in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, burned down in 1712 and was rebuilt by the Băleni boyars, who grant the church estates and money for the construction of priestly residences and buildings serving the needy and the sick (demolished 1890). The place of worship was damaged during the 1838 earthquake. According to votive inscriptions, the church was rebuilt and extended to its final dimensions November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1839, by Constantin Năsturel-Herăscu, nephew of the local ban bearing the same name, being finished by Ioaniche Stavronichie. On this occasion, it was also consecrated to the Baptism of Jesus Christ.

The church was bordered by Vergului road to the north (currently Corneliu Coposu boulevard) and the present-day Sfânta Vineri street to the south.

Once the area was restructured, following the systematizations of 1977-1989, both the position and name of the road are changed. Thus, between 1985 and 1990 Sf. Vineri street is called Lăpușna street. Afterwards, the street would be given back its original name and extended by incorporation of former Decebal street.

A recently built monument marks the site of the former church, and a new church has been built on a site in the close vicinity.

Sf. Anton (Saint Anthony) square is situated in the historic center of Bucharest, near Unirii square, behind the apartment blocks on I.C. Brătianu boulevard, in a space defined by Curtea Veche church (consecrated to Saint Anthony the Great and the Annunciation) and Șepcari street to the west, Manuc’s Inn and Franceză street to the south, the extension of Covaci street to the north and Brătianu boulevard to the east. The plot was part of the ensemble of the Princely Court. The court is moved to Spirii hill in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, where it will be known as the “Burnt Court” due to being destroyed by a fire.

The name of the square reminds of Sf. Anton church, which fell prey to the great 1847 fire which devastated nearly a quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century Bucharest. After the fire, the plot is turned into the Flower Market which, together with “Târgul din Lăuntru” (the Inside Market), formed the former Unirii Market, with commercial halls which were demolished 1977. This is where Podul Târgului de Afară (Road to the Outside Market) started, ending in the other large commercial location, Obor Market.

At the other end of Franceză street, at number 3, we can observe Sf. Dumitru (Saint Demetrius) church, also known as Sf. Dumitru-Poștă (Saint Demetrius of the Post) due to the neighboring Postal Palace, currently the National History Museum. The church was built 1819, on the site of a 14<sup>th</sup> century church. It is a university church hosting the holy relics of Saints Pantelimon, Haralambie, Antipa and Nicanor.

Between the church’s courtyard and the building currently hosting the Comedy Theater lies the street named Sf. Dumitru, which would initially start in Carol street (currently Franceză street) and end in Smârdan street. Following the construction of the Theater building, on church grounds, a new street is formed, connected to Poștei street and receiving the name Bălăceanu. City Hall would later modify this, extending Sf. Dumitru street from Poștei to Smârdan street, thus incorporating Bălăceanu street.

On Sf. Elefterie (Saint Elephtherius) street, we can find the homonymous church built by architect Constantin Iotzu. In the 18th century a bend of the Dâmbovița river was home to a village built around St. Elephtherius’ hermitage. Between 1743 and 1744, Maxim Cupetul

built Old St. Elephtherius' church, during the reign of Mihai Racoviță. After the course of the Dâmbovița was altered, the river bend disappeared and the village became Cotroceni quarter. The street connecting the church to Podul de Pământ road was named Sf. Elefterie and would cross the modified river course over the Gara Centrală (Central Station) bridge, crossing Gara Centrală square and meeting Plevnei street. Between 1985 and 1990, this street was known as Operei street, due to its vicinity to the National Opera, a structure built 1954 on a site initially meant for a new central train station.

Assembled in the great aula of the Faculty of Medicine, the Parish Council decided on the 29th of April 1934 to build a new church. Its cornerstone was laid on Sunday, June 29th 1935. Over 36 years, the church was constructed using churchgoers' donations. New St. Elephtherius' Church was consecrated by Patriarch Justinian Marina on the 29th of June 1971, on the feast day dedicated to St. Apostles Peter and Paul. The project was elaborated by architect Constantin Iotzu (1884-1962) and engineer Dumitru Marcu. The imposing iconostasis was sculpted in cherrywood by Grigore Dumitrescu and Aurel Obreja, based on a model from Skopje, Macedonia, being the only such iconostasis in Romania. Its icons are painted by Stan Hermeneanu of Govora, a renowned religious artist. Frescoes inside the church were made by Iosif Keber and Vasile Rudeanu in a neoclassical style. The icon of St. Mary and the Child was painted by Arsenie Boca in the church's altar. Relics of St. Elephtherius were brought December 15th, 2009, from Țigănești monastery. The saint, a martyr and deacon who became Bishop of Illyria at 20 years of age, lived around the year 100 AD and traveled Illyria and Pannonia spreading the Christian belief during the time of Emperor Hadrian.

Before the boulevard connecting former I.C. Brătianu square to Unirii square was opened, the intersection of Lipscani, Bărăției and Decebal streets was known as Sf. Gheorghe (St. George) square. Initially, it was known as Romei (Rome) square, first hosting the Capitoline Wolf offered to Bucharest by the Italian capital. Recently, the she-wolf statue was moved back to the site after having changed location several times.

In Sf. Gheorghe square we can admire the "brâncovenesc" style New St. George's church, built on the site of an older place of worship, evoked by the French traveler Pierre Lescapier in the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century (1574). The church was initially wooden, with a stone foundation, after which it was replaced by Dobruș Banul with a brick church, according to historian Radu Greceanu. As Pr. Emil Nedela Cărmizaru, parishioner of Sf. Gheorghe Nou church, would write, historical accounts from the end of the 16th century mention the church, which was famous at the time for its relics, most of which are still kept inside: "the right hand of St. Nicholas, archbishop of Myra and Lycia, sealed in precious silver and decorated with diamonds, given as a gift by Mihail Voievod (Michael the Brave) and Lady Stanca, in the year 7407 (1599), under the Metropolitanate of Eftimie". During the reign of Antonie Vodă (1669-1672) the church is once again mentioned, being consecrated to the Holy Sepulchre. In the year 1625, as ordered by Patriarch Dositheos of Jerusalem, a rich and famous Ottoman clerk by the name of Panaiotis Nikusios Mamona rebuilt the church, inspired by the similar place of worship on Stenimachos hill, Chalce Island. On this date, a number of annexes were built. Later on, as this church became insufficient, Radu Greceanu writes that during the 17<sup>th</sup> year of Constantin Brâncoveanu's rule (1688-1714), as "his Highness could not stand the sight of such a small church in the middle of the town", the voivode decided to build the most impressive place of worship Bucharest had ever seen, a monument which would last through the ages. This is the present church, a perfect example of refined "brâncovenesc" style, the only one of its kind left standing in Bucharest and the last church built by Brâncoveanu. Among the contributors to the construction of this work of art were the architect Veseleil, the great aga Enache Văcărescu and the famous church painter Pârvu Mutu, founder of a painting school in Bucharest. We can imply that the three craftsmen

painted in Hurezi (Horezu) church, the other important place of worship built by Brâncoveanu, were also involved in the project. The consecration of the holy site, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1707, on the feast day of Apostles Peter and Paul, was a remarkable event, described by a number of historic writings: in a festive setting, the prince and his family, the great boyars, guildsmen and thousands of locals were greeted by a delegation of spiritual leaders including the Metropolitan of Wallachia, Patriarchs Hrisant of Jerusalem and Gherasim of Alexandria, as well as other religious figures from within the country and south of the Danube. The monumental church was damaged by earthquakes in 1802, 1804 and 1832, as well as the great fire of March 1847. Architect Xavier Vilacrosse Aîné was tasked with restoring the place of worship, his radical changes to the initial shape of the church leading to it being given the name New St. George's Church. The rebuilding of the church in the original „brâncovenesc” architectural style was undertaken by architect Henrieta Delavrancea-Gibory, daughter of the great writer Barbu Ștefănescu Delavrancea, prof. Ștefan Balș, prof. Vasile Drăguț, pro. Nicolae Stoian, Cristian Moisesescu and others. Thus, the church was returned to its former glory, becoming once again an example of art and history, emphasizing the beauty of „brâncovenesc” style, named after the great ruler and martyr Constantin Brâncoveanu of the Basarab dynasty. The voivode's statue, a work by sculptor Oscar Han, can be seen in front of the church. On the 20th of June 1992 the Sinode of the Romanian Orthodox Church decreed the sanctification of Constantin Brâncoveanu, his sons Constantin, Radu, Ștefan and Matei, and vornic Ianache Văcărescu, martyred August 15th, 1714, in Constantinople, on the day of the Assumption of Mary and the voivode's 60th birthday.

All of these places of worship left a profound mark on the Bucharest area, as well as its inhabitants, focusing city life into radiant points of interest.

## THE HISTORY OF THE CITY'S EVOLUTION, A STARTING POINT FOR PLANNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF THE FUTURE

(Case study for Bucharest – incorporation of neighboring settlements, parceling of large estates, the evolution of street names)

The city is a living organism which evolves along with its inhabitants, along with changes in lifestyle or with the new scientific discoveries. From the first moments a town is born, people that choose to settle in order to work, live and raise their offspring are trying, within the limits of their knowledge and skills, to create the best living conditions they can have. Each development era left its own mark on the evolution of the city in an attempt to turn it into the best possible setting so as every man can thrive. The transition from the stage when most residents, especially those living in the outskirts of the city, were making a living out of farming to the next stage of intensive industrialization has transformed the city into a crowded, unfriendly and sometimes even harmful place for living.

One can observe that the economic development is the major mechanism that drives progress in all aspects, regardless of the city we choose to analyze. The industrial development during the last half of the XIXth and most of the XXth century led to the creation of large factories committed to mass production in the surroundings of the city. This growth also implied the need to provide housing for many new workers. The massive impact



it had eventually prompted the city's expansion towards its outer boundaries and the incorporation of the small or larger neighboring sites into the original town. Thus, a large area of many settlements became occupied by buildings and gained an increasing number of stable or travelling inhabitants.

Currently, the persons who manage the administration of these areas must have the ability to create the best conditions for the future modern living. It is the prerogative of the city's administration to ensure the proper information of the citizens and a good collaboration with them, as this is the only way of knowing their necessities, along with stimulating a substantial reduction in energy consumption and creating opportunities for fast travelling from one area to another. Because the evolution of a city can only take place over a long period of time, any development program must be planned ahead for a wider time frame than the merely average lifespan of a human being. Many times, the reconfiguration of a city and the implementation of modern facilities that transform common living areas into "intelligent areas" can make that place's history fade away.

This would be the reason why, in a certain phase, the development of the city must take place mainly throughout external areas which were in the past used for agricultural purposes. The most advanced systematization notions are derived from this concept, as well as the most modern architectural trends and the newest building techniques. Forcing the reconfiguration of a locality creates not only discomfort to its citizens but also sometimes important oversights that can arise from the disappearance of certain places or buildings that represent the city's immediate or early history.

Therefore, a detailed and profound knowledge of the history of the city brings into existence the premises that all citizens eventually understand the motifs and the ways in which development proposals made by specialists are implemented. I lack of knowledge can lead to the destruction of both local history and normal living conditions.

Considering the aforementioned prerequisites of a modern and future "intelligent city", let us now commence a discussion on the expansion of Bucharest, the disappearance of its neighboring settlements, the creation of large parcels and the construction of some big living districts.

After Romania became a kingdom, in 1881, Bucharest - now the capital of the country started to develop as an urban area and flourished. This stage represents the beginning of modernization according to European standards for most of Romania's settlements.

Before the first regulations that paved the way to a modern development stage, the city was subdivided in smaller nuclei around churches, better known as "mahalale" (slums). Among the most famous "mahalale" are the slums with ethnic color such as the Armenian and the Hebrew ones. One cannot forget the "Țigănia Mitropoliei" (the gypsy settlement neighboring the Metropolis) or "Flămânda" (hungry) slum, the "Caimatei" and the slums known under the name of their inhabitants' guilds. All these city cores are now remembered only by some preserved buildings or by the names of existing streets.

At the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the city of Bucharest stretches to what is known today as Iancu de Hunedoara boulevard, Ștefan cel Mare road, Mihai Bravu road, Viilor road, Tudor Vladimirescu road and Geniului boulevard. This period represents the beginning of the modernization of Bucharest, one of the greatest projects that influence the life of the city's inhabitants: the regularization of the Dâmbovița river. From Ciurel to Văcărești, the meanders of the capricious river disappear, giving way to wide avenues that allow transportation from the north-west to the south-east. This is the most eloquent example for the way in which an administration performs works that address the city of the future, an intelligent city. In this period, Bucharest was split into 5 administrative divisions which were named, for convenience, after colors: Red, Yellow, Black, Blue, Green. Later, the number of divisions is reduced to 4 and they are labeled "sectors": Sector I – Yellow, Sector II – Black, Sector III – Blue, Sector IV – Green.

Around the city lay a number of settlements, older or newer, which over time became part of the city's administrative territory. The names of some of these settlements can be found even today in the names of city areas or neighborhoods: Colentina, Băneasa, Dămăroaia, Bucureștii Noi, Grivița, Giulești Sârbi, Crângași, Militari, Tudor Vladimirescu, Șerban Vodă, Apărătorii Patriei. Some of these settlements appeared after the parcellation of great estates belonging to monasteries around Bucharest. Among the most famous of these is the estate of Cotroceni Monastery, where the commune of Military – nowadays the neighborhood bearing the same name – developed, or the estate of Văcărești Monastery, where Șerban Vodă commune developed, now the neighborhoods known as Berceni and Apărătorii Patriei.

At the beginning of the 20th century, part of former Lupeasca commune is included into the city territory. The remaining land belonging to the commune is incorporated 1943. This territory, known after 1941 as Tudor Vladimirescu, had also belonged to the estate of Cotroceni Monastery.

The abovementioned commune of Șerban Vodă was also incorporated into the city territory in a two-step process. The interwar period was the most prolific in transforming Bucharest into a modern settlement. Large plots were delimited, upon careful analysis and approval by an administration that was conscious of the changes urbanization will effect upon the settlement. Land parcels in Cotroceni neighborhood, as well as "Filipescu" parcel, are where the luxurious residences of the Bucharest elite were constructed. Parcels that were then destined for the middle and lower classes are also highly sought after today for their excellent living conditions.

Among these were parcels established by the Ministry of Domains for public servants, such as "Domenii I" and "Domenii II" neighboring Ion Mihalache boulevard, or parcels set up by the Romanian railway company for its employees, such as "CFR-Muncii" parcel neighboring Pieptănari boulevard or the parcels surrounding Gara de Nord railway station. When discussing land parcels, one cannot forget about the "Poligonul de Tragere" (Shooting Range) parcel close to Drumul Sării road, "Principele Carol I" parcel neighboring Dorobanți street, "Bonaparte" and "Fabrica de Țesătorie" (Weaving Factory) parcels close to Iancu de

Hunedoara boulevard, the parcels of the former Society for Affordable Housing around Vatra Luminoasă and Iancului streets as well as the less famous Rahova parcel.

These real estate developments led to a transformation in the city, mainly through creating communication routes that facilitated faster transport, according to the needs of the era, but also creating the necessary space for implementing modern utilities. This is when water supply and sewage systems were widely introduced.

After 1950, Bucharest begins to take a familiar shape, as a number of bordering settlements were absorbed by the city. The urban communes that became part of Bucharest are Grivița, Băneasa, Herăstrău, Colentina (except Pipera and Cetatea Voluntăreasca neighborhoods), Principele Nicolae, Dudești Cioplea, Șerban Vodă, Progresul, Tudor Vladimirescu, Militari, Regele Mihai I – Giulești.

During this phase, the city is composed of 8 administrative divisions called rayons. The rayons are: Grivița Roșie, Stalin / 30 Decembrie, 1 Mai, 23 August, Tudor Vladimirescu, Nicolae Bălcescu, V.I. Lenin, 16 Februarie / Gheorghe Gheorghiu Dej.

After 1968 and Law no. 2/1968, the administrative divisions are once again called sectors and are numbered from 1 to 8. Their number is later reduced to 6. A brief review of the situation of territorial division in Bucharest was necessary for the correct understanding of the succession of street names that were instated or replaced.

As we have shown, the attribution of names for the city's roads is one of the duties of local administration. Throughout time, the choice of these names has generated friction because streets were named after figures of less significance, even though street naming commissions often included personalities of cultural and scientific life. If before 1945 the instatement of street names lacked great impact due to the small number of streets affected at one given time, after this year we can identify 4 periods of great changes in the index of Bucharest streets.

1948 was a year when, throughout Bucharest, a large number of street names were attributed or changed. Alongside the political implications of the new regime, names were imposed that brought forward personalities of the ruling party, imposed by administrative changes.

In the same year, preparations were being made for the census of people and dwellings, one of the most complex ever undertaken in Romania. According to data supplied by this census, records were made for one of the widest-spanning expropriations which culminated in the Nationalization decree nr. 92/1950. Aside from this, several bordering settlements, many of which had streets with similar names to those in Bucharest, were incorporated into the city. During the year 1948, more than 2000 street names were granted or changed. Most of them honored leaders of the Communist movement, but also soldiers who took part in the war between August 1944 and May 1945. Because so many streets were named, however, street names with less significance also appeared, such as Tocului (Pen) street, Ghiozdanului (School Bag) street, Acetonei (Acetone) or Eterului (Ether) street.

After 1950, the administrative sub-units of Bucharest became somewhat autonomous, leading to cases when the same name was granted to different streets.

Yet another step in the process was the year 1962, when most pro-Soviet names are replaced and a large number of repeating street names were changed to avoid confusion.

Because, as we have shown, the political factor has a special impact on the choice of street names, the year 1989 represented another step in the replacement of street names. From 1990 onward, most street names bearing the names of Communist leaders were replaced: M. I. Kalinin boulevard, H. Aroneanu street, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej square, Ilie Pintilie square and boulevard, Petru Groza boulevard, National Assembly alley.

However, this activity also includes the return to older street names, especially in the old areas of the city where systematization had not yet destroyed the old layout: Gheorghe Cantacuzino square, Doamna Ghica street, Nicolae Filipescu street, Ion Dragalina street. Other names that were brought back were those of Metropolitans of the Orthodox Church and saints, names which had been replaced during the last half of the 80s.

What we desire to observe by reviewing this modern period of Bucharest is that a good knowledge of facts and events in the past facilitates a coherent analysis of future proposals for all decision factors and other players involved.

The observations made by each of us during the last decade in Bucharest, or any urban settlement, lead to one conclusion: that the ability of city administration to find solutions to implement coherent and sustainable urban policies and works of infrastructure and the use of modern means for communication with the citizens it serves, creates the premises for the apparition of the intelligent city.